

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1391

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 31 2025

RE: S.R. No. 96

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. 96 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF MARINE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TO ACHIEVE THE STATE'S DECARBONIZATION GOALS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to affirm:

- (1) The importance of marine ecosystem restoration to achieve the State's decarbonization goals; and
- (2) This body's commitment to:
 - (A) Supporting renewable energy and conservation projects that align carbon sequestration with marine ecosystem restoration; and
 - (B) Strengthening carbon accounting methodologies to assist in the quantification and reduction of direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and Coalition Earth.



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

Your Committee finds that healthy marine ecosystems can sequester carbon and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide. According to testimony received by your Committee, scientific data shows that the potential benefits of coordinating marine conservation with carbon sequestration are significant and mutually reinforcing. This measure underscores the vital role that marine ecosystems play in achieving the State's ambitious decarbonization goals.

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. 96 and recommends its adoption.

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



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 96	Committee Referral: AEN	Date: 03-17-25
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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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton			X	
TOTAL	4		1	

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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