

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3248

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 3 0 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1881
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.B. No. 1881, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAND USE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit passenger ropeways on mountain lands within all land use districts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Keep the North Shore Country, Hawaii's Thousand Friends, Defend Oahu Coalition, Free Access Coalition, Association of Hawaii Civic Clubs, Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club, and nine individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State contains many protected species and sensitive ecosystems that must be protected from overdevelopment. Passenger ropeways, such as gondolas, are one type of development that threaten to degrade the natural and cultural resources of state lands, with one passenger ropeway project currently proposed for Mount Kaala. This measure will protect and respect the State's aina for the betterment of



neighboring communities and the public for the present and future generations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the operation of passenger ropeways shall be prohibited in all land use districts, rather than on mountain lands within all land use districts;
- (2) Inserting language that exempts a government entity, official government-recognized corporation, or official government-recognized nonprofit organization from the prohibition of the operation of passenger ropeways in all land use districts, subject to approval by the Legislature;
- (3) Deleting the definition of "mountain";
- (4) Amending the definition of "passenger ropeway" to exclude a device or system strictly for private, single-home use and of a length not greater than one hundred feet; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1881, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1881, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water, Land,
Culture and the Arts,



CHRIS LEE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts
WLA

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1881 HDI	WLA, JDC	8-18-2026 <i>div</i>		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313		
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
LAMOSAO, Rachele	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	5			
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Lorraine R. Inouye</i>				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink		
File with Committee Report	Committee	Drafting Agency		

*Only one measure per Record of Votes