

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 05

, 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1982
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which
was referred H.B. No. 1982 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN
HOME LANDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for certain geothermal resource
exploration and development activities and the hiring of
consultants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and two individuals.
Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure
from Truth for the People and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that geothermal resources can provide
stable power, community benefits, and an alternative to fossil
fuels. Your Committee further finds that start-up funding was
appropriated to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for the
exploration of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands and
that additional funding is needed to continue these efforts. This
measure ensures that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has the
resources and expertise needed to continue geothermal resource
exploration and development activities.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$5,000,000 for certain geothermal resource exploration and development activities and the hiring of consultants.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1982, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1982, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy &
Environmental Protection,


NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



HC 30-26

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1982		Committee Referral: EEP, JHA, FIN		Date: 2/3/26	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
EEP Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)		✓			
2. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)		✓			
3. CHUN, Cory M.		✓			
4. KAHALOA, Kirstin		✓			
5. KUSCH, Matthias		✓			
6. QUINLAN, Sean		✓			
7. MATSUMOTO, Lauren			✓		
TOTAL (7)		6	1		
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ <i>Amy Perruso</i>					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					