STAND. COM. REP. NO. 875 -26

Honolulu, Hawaii
MAR 05 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2599
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 Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 2599, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AQUATIC PROTECTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Division of Aquatic Resources of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to:

(1) Manage the aquatic life and aquatic resources of the State, giving the highest priority to protecting, restoring, and maintaining ecosystem integrity, using the best available science when gathering and compiling information and statistics; and

(2) Set goals to substantially increase coral-reef resilience around Oahu and develop a framework to meet those goals, with annual reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Animal Rights Hawai'i; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef & Ocean Coalition; and five individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2599, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Finance,

Committee on Finance,

CHRIS TODD, Chair

State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-third Legislature

HSCR 885-26

Record of Votes of the Committee on Finance

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB2599, HD1	WAL, FIN	3/3/26

☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: ☑ Pass, unamended (as is) ☐ Pass, with amendments (HD) ☐ Hold
☐ Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

FIN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TODD, Chris (C)	✓			
2. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna (VC)	✓			
3. HARTSFIELD, Daisy	✓			
5. HUSSEY, Ikaika	✓			
6. KEOHOKAPU-LEE LOY, Sue L.	✓			
7. KITAGAWA, Lisa	✓			
8. KUSCH, Matthias	✓			
9. LEE, Mike	✓			
10. MIYAKE, Tyson K.	✓			
11. MORIKAWA, Dee	✓			
12. PERRUSO, Amy A.	✓			
13. TEMPLO, Shirley Ann	✓			
14. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	✓			
15. ALCOS III, David	✓			
16. GEDEON, Joe	✓			
17. REYES ODA, Julie	✓			
TOTAL (~~17~~) 16	16	0	0	0

The recommendation is: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____

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