STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2750

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 5 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2005
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2005, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSERVATION BANKING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the establishment and operation of conservation banks.

Specifically, this measure:

(1) Authorizes public and private entities to seek approval to operate a conservation bank for the benefit of a proposed species as part of an approved incidental take license and habitat conservation plan;

(2) Establishes requirements for the application to establish and operate a conservation bank;

(3) Establishes procedures for the Board of Land and Natural Resources to approve an application to establish and operate a conservation bank; and

(4) Makes a housekeeping amendment to the Endangered Species Recovery Committee membership to more accurately reflect the federal agency staffing terminology used by the United States Geological Survey.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Earthjustice, Sierra Club of Hawaii, The Nature Conservancy, and Tawhiri Power LLC.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from Kauai Island Utility Cooperative.

Your Committee finds that conservation banks can serve as valuable tools for incidental take permit holders to improve the habitats of plants and animals, and help to preserve Hawaii's many threatened or endangered species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2005, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB2005, SD1	WLA, WAM	3/3/2026

☐ 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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
TOTAL	12	0	0	1

Recommendation: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

Distribution: Original — File with Committee Report; Yellow — Committee; Pink — Drafting Agency

*Only <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/02/26