

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAY 1 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2907
S.D. 1
H.D. 3
C.D. 1

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

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

Sir and Madam:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 2907, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARINE AFFAIRS,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Declare that the State is an ocean cluster;
- (2) Establish the Office of Marine Affairs and Marine Affairs Governing Board within the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation;
- (3) Establish and appropriate funds for the Marine Affairs Coordinator position;



- (4) Repeal the powers and duties of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism over marine affairs; and
- (5) Transfer the employees and functions of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Marine Affairs to the Office of Marine Affairs.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State is well-positioned to capitalize on the projected growth of the global ocean economy, or blue economy, due to its geographic position, world-class ocean research assets, and talented local workforce; however, it lacks a coordinated strategic framework to drive its actions. This measure implements a sustainable, culturally respectful, integrated framework for pursuing economic growth and technological innovation through the blue economy.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, rather than the Governor, shall set the salary of the Marine Affairs Coordinator;
- (2) Deleting language that would have appropriated an unspecified amount to be expended by the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation for the purpose of funding one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Marine Affairs Coordinator position;
- (3) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (4) Making it effective on July 1, 2026; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2907, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2907, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

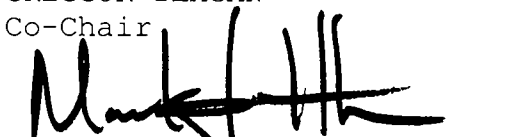


Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

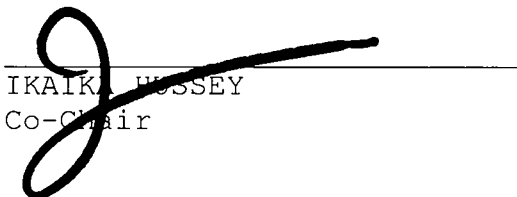
ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE



GREGGOR ILAGAN
Co-Chair

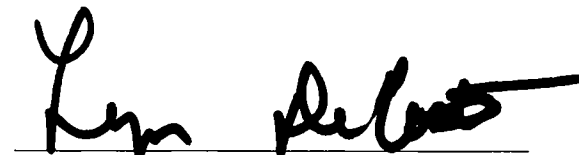


MARK J. HASHIM
Co-Chair

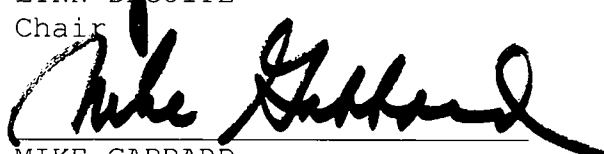


IKAIKA WESLEY
Co-Chair

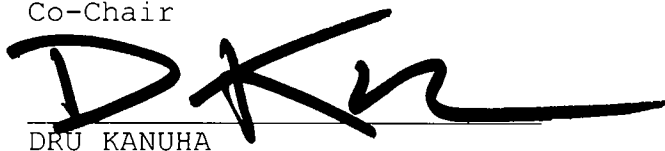
ON THE PART OF THE SENATE



LYNN DECOITE
Chair



MIKE GABBARD
Co-Chair



DRU KANUHA
Co-Chair



Hawai'i State Legislature

Record of Votes of a
Conference Committee

42-226-26

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 2907, SD 1, HD 3	Date/Time: 05/01/26 5:50 PM
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The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).

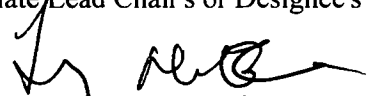
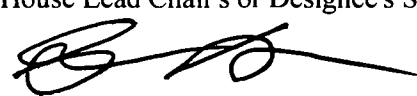
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.

<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure	<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.
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Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
DECOITE, Lynn, Chr.	✓				ILAGAN, Greggor, Co-Chr.	✓			
GABBARD, Mike, Co-Chr.				✓	HASHEM, Mark J., Co-Chr.				✓
KANUHA, Dru Mamo, Co-Chr.	✓				HUSSEY, Ikaika, Co-Chr.	✓			
					GEDEON, Joe	✓			
TOTAL	2	0	0	1	TOTAL	3	0	0	1

A = Aye WR = Aye with Reservations N = Nay E = Excused

Senate Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted	House Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted
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Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 	House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 
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