STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3413

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 6 2026

RE: S.C.R. No. 129

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 129 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANSION OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS THAT INCREASE TREE CANOPY COVERAGE AND INSTALL SHADE TREES IN URBAN AREAS TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF URBAN HEAT ISLANDS ACROSS THE STATE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to affirm the Legislature's support for expanding programs and projects that increase tree canopy coverage and install shade trees in urban areas to mitigate the effects of urban heat islands throughout the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, Climate Protectors Hawai'i, Kaulunani Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council, Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group, The Outdoor Circle, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that urban trees are a proven, cost-effective infrastructure solution to help lower temperatures, enhance air quality, and promote public health. Furthermore, the State, through existing programs, has demonstrated its commitment to expanding tree canopy coverage and shade among communities with differing socioeconomic levels. This measure would further address gaps in equitable tree canopy coverage and support

successful models for coordinated investment, community partnerships, and long-term stewardship of urban forests.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 129 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture and
Environment,
Environment,

MIKE GABBARD, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SCR 129	AEN	3-27-26

☐ 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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn				X
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton				X
TOTAL	3			2

Recommendation: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/02/26