

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1229

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

June 24, 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 24, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

S.B. NO. 2983, S.D. 1, H.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES.
ACT 128

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 708, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§708- Criminal destruction of a tree on state or county

5 property. (1) A person commits the offense of criminal
6 destruction of a tree on state or county property if, by means
7 other than fire, the person intentionally or knowingly fells,
8 injures, or destroys a tree growing or standing upon state or
9 county property so as to substantially diminish the value of the
10 tree, or substantially damages the potential value of a tree
11 growing or standing upon state or county property, without the
12 consent of the State or county on which the tree stands.

13 (2) Criminal destruction of a tree on state or county
14 property is a misdemeanor.

15 (3) In addition to any penalty prescribed in this chapter,
16 a person found guilty of violating this section shall also be
17 required to pay to the State or county an amount equal to the



1 replacement value of the tree, as determined by an arborist
2 designated by the appropriate state or county agency."

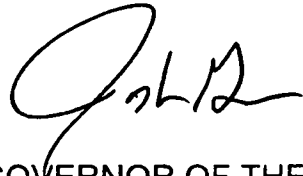
3 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 2983
S.D. 1
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 24th day of June, 2026



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII


THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 2983, SD 1, HD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives