

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1311

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

July 8, 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 July 8, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 1728, H.D. 1, S.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO RAINWATER CATCHMENT
SYSTEMS.
ACT 209

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

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

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RAINWATER CATCHMENT SYSTEMS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that limited water infrastructure is a major barrier to new housing and sustainable land use in the State. Many properties, whether connected or not to county water systems, face restrictions that prevent efficient water use or new development. Rainwater catchment systems offer a low-cost, sustainable way to supplement water supply for potable and nonpotable uses. The legislature further finds that allowing these systems across all zoning types can reduce strain on public infrastructure, support local self-sufficiency, and encourage responsible water management.

Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Require the counties to allow for the installation and operation of rainwater catchment systems for potable and nonpotable uses on all properties; and
- (2) Allow the counties to require registration, inspection, or notification of rainwater catchment systems.



SECTION 2. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§46- Regulation of rainwater catchment systems. (a)

Pursuant to the authority granted to the counties under section 46-1.5(13) and (14) (A) (ii), each county shall permit the installation and operation of rainwater catchment systems for potable and nonpotable uses on all properties, regardless of whether the property is connected to a county water system.

(b) Each county may require registration, inspection, or notification of rainwater catchment systems where necessary to protect public health or water quality but shall not unreasonably restrict or prohibit their use.

(c) As used in this section:

"County water system" means any public water infrastructure operated or regulated by a department or board of water supply of the county.

"Rainwater catchment system" means a system designed to collect and store rainwater from rooftops or other surfaces for potable and nonpotable use, including irrigation, toilet flushing, cleaning, and landscape watering."



- 1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.



H.B. NO. 1728
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 8th day of July, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. L. I.', written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 1728, HD 1, SD 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

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