

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3924

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 24 2026

RE: H.C.R. No. 31

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts and Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 31 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING 2026 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS IN HAWAII,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to recognize 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in Hawaii.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity; University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Parker Ranch, Inc.; 'Āina Advocates LLC; Kapāpala Ranch; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Caires Farms, LLC; and six individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i.


Your Committees find that rangelands are ecosystems based on grassy vegetation that cover more than half of the land on the planet and that pastoralists, including ranchers, are those who raise livestock or semi-domesticated animals on rangelands, perpetuating a millennia-old occupation found in some form on each



of the six civilized continents. Locally, rangelands account for approximately a quarter of state lands, and state ranchers contribute over \$50,000,000 annually to the economy. Your Committees further find that, besides food production, rangelands support humankind by supplying carbon sequestration and storage, renewable and nonrenewable energy resources, and aesthetic and recreational opportunities. To align with the United Nations and other governmental entities around the world, this measure will formally recognize the vital significance of rangelands and the pastoralists who steward them.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 31, and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Water, Land,  
Culture and the Arts and  
Agriculture and Environment,



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MIKE GABBARD, Chair




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CHRIS LEE, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts**  
**WLA**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HCR 31</b>	Committee Referral: <b>WLA/AEN</b>	Date: <b>04/17/26</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)				✓
CHANG, Stanley				✓
LAMOSAO, Rachele	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink File with Committee Report     Committee     Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HCR 31</b>	Committee Referral: <b>WLA/AEN</b>	Date: <b>4/17/26</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)				✓
DECOITE, Lynn				✓
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Karl Rhoads</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink File with Committee Report     Committee     Drafting Agency				

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