

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3878

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 22 2026

RE: H.C.R. No. 36

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 36 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND THE PREFECTURE OF OKAYAMA, JAPAN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a sister-state relationship between the State, United States of America, and the prefecture of Okayama in Japan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; one member of the Honolulu City Council; Hawaii Okayama Kenjin Kai; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Sister Cities International; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State has initiated six sister-state relationships with Japanese prefectures but has not yet partnered with Okayama, a prefecture on the coast of Japan's Honshu Island. Since 1868, when a samurai from Okayama arrived with the first group of Japanese immigrants, Okayama has shared a unique bond with the State that thrives even today through the joint activities of educational institutions and nonprofits. This measure will honor the shared past while strengthening economic opportunity, advancing shared goals of international peace, and cementing the bond for the good of future generations.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 36, and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water, Land,
Culture and the Arts,

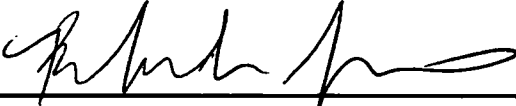


CHRIS LEE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HCR 36	WLA	04-17-26		
<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	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes