

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1746-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 , 2026

RE: H.R. No. 147

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.R.
No. 147 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE HAWAI'I WATER SAFETY COALITION'S HAWAI'I WATER SAFETY
PLAN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to support the findings and
recommendations of the Hawaii Water Safety Coalition's Hawaii
Water Safety Plan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Water Safety Coalition;
Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku
Foundation; Rescue Tube Foundation; Safe Kids Worldwide; Hawai'i
Search and Rescue Alliance; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that drowning is the leading cause of
death for children in the State between ages one and fifteen, with
twenty-six children lost between 2019 and 2023. Your Committee
further finds that visitors make up less than fifteen percent of
the State's average daily population but constitute the majority
of drowning victims, with snorkeling accounting for ninety-one
percent of visitor ocean drownings. Your Committee also finds
that the Hawaii Water Safety Coalition, formed in 2023 and now
under the umbrella of the Hawaiian Lifeguard Association, has

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developed the Hawaii Water Safety Plan as a comprehensive, evidenced-informed strategy aligned with the United States National Water Safety Action Plan and international best practices.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 147 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water & Land,

for 

MARK J. HASHEM, Chair



