

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1798-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 , 2026

RE: H.R. No. 95

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. 95 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANSION OF
PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS THAT INCREASE TREE CANOPY COVERAGE AND
INSTALL SHADE TREES IN URBAN AREAS TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF
URBAN HEAT ISLANDS ACROSS THE STATE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to affirm support for
expanding programs and projects that increase tree-canopy coverage
and install shade trees in urban areas to mitigate the effects of
urban heat islands throughout the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Public
Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living; Kaulunani Urban &
Community Forestry Advisory Council; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that an urban heat island effect occurs
when built environments with extensive pavement, rooftops, and
other heat-absorbing materials experience significantly higher
temperatures than surrounding areas. Your Committee further finds
that the effects of urban heat islands are already being felt
across the State, increasing heat exposure and the risk of heat-
related illness among residents. Your Committee also finds that
urban tree-canopy programs provide multiple co-benefits, including

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improved air quality, reduced stormwater runoff, lower energy costs, enhanced biodiversity, and better mental and physical health outcomes. Your Committee additionally finds that collaboration across state and county agencies is necessary to maximize the effectiveness and equitability of shade-tree and urban-canopy strategies across the State.

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. 95 and recommends its adoption.

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

for 

MARK J. HASHEM, Chair



