

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3033**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2022
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2022, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE WATER CODE PENALTIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Add a minimum penalty and maximum penalty per violation of the State Water Code;
- (2) Authorize the Commission on Water Resource Management to consider each day that a violation exists or continues to exist a separate offense;
- (3) Establish factors that the Commission on Water Resource Management must consider when determining the amount of the penalty; and
- (4) Increase maximum fines every five years from 2031 to 2046.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Ulupono Initiative.

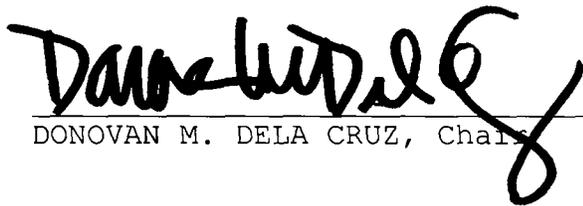


Your Committees received comments on this measure from Agribusiness Development Corporation, Board of Water Supply of the City and County of Honolulu, and Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui.

Your Committees find that the State Water Code was adopted to protect and preserve the State's irreplaceable water resources. However, existing penalties do not accurately reflect the value of the State's water resources and do not effectively deter the exploitation and misuse of these resources. This measure will impose more stringent fines and penalties on violators of the State Water Code, allowing the Commission on Water Resource Management to better protect the State's water resources.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2022, S.D. 1, and recommend that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Judiciary and
Ways and Means,

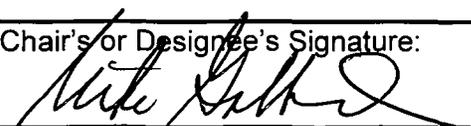

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2022 SD1	Committee Referral: WLA, JDC/WAM	Date: 3/4/26		
<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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—
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

