

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2948

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2096
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2096, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish testing procedures to detect per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in wastewater.

More specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires certain wastewater treatment works to test sewage sludge and other residual material for the presence of PFAS;
- (2) Requires the Department of Health to adopt administrative rules for the monitoring, sampling, and testing of, and data collection on, sewage sludge and other residual materials that contain specific amounts of PFAS; and
- (3) Prohibits, if testing yields PFAS, the issuance or renewal of permits authorizing the land application of sewage sludge or other residual materials on land:
 - (A) Used for agronomic purposes;



- (B) Where drainage tiles have been installed;
- (C) That drains into the waters of the State; or
- (D) In a five-hundred-year floodplain.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition, Hawaii Food+ Policy--Purple Maia Foundation, Americans for Democratic Action Hawaii Chapter, and three individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that PFAS are known as "forever chemicals" because they do not break down easily in the environment. These chemicals are known to pose severe risks to human health and the environment. Your Committee notes that PFAS can enter the marine environment through various pathways, including wastewater runoff and agricultural runoff. Your Committee finds that this measure will help to reduce the amount of PFAS entering the environment, thereby reducing the harmful effects on human health and marine life.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

Should a Committee in the House of Representatives hear this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider the written comments provided by the Department of Health recommending that section 4 of the measure be deleted until there is greater clarity on regulatory standards.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2096, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2096, S.D. 2.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

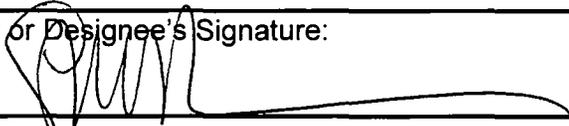


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2096, SDI	HHS/OEN, WAM	3/3/2026		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
TOTAL	12	0	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Committee	Pink Drafting Agency		

*Only one measure per Record of Votes