

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2509

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2130
S.D. 1

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 S.B. No. 2130 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUNTING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to amend its administrative rules to increase by twenty percent on each island the total acreage of public lands designated as public hunting areas for the hunting of game birds and game mammals; and
- (2) Require a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Food+ Policy, Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association, and six individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Kapapala Ranch; and one individual.



Your Committee finds that the Department of Land and Natural Resources currently allows hunting on approximately seven hundred thousand acres of land managed by the Division of Forestry and Wildlife in addition to hunting permitted on certain unencumbered and state parks lands. Expanding hunting in the State can function to both preserve cultural and social connections and promote ecological balance. Therefore, this measure will serve as a tool for invasive species population control, provide supplemental food for communities, and further the State's sustainability goals.

Your Committee notes the concern raised in testimony by the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council that the increase of public land designated as public hunting areas by this measure may impede farming and ranching operations and food production. Amendments to this measure are therefore necessary to address this concern.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the Department of Land and Natural Resources to increase, by twenty percent on each of the islands of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, and Hawaii, the total acreage of public lands that are designated as public hunting areas for the hunting of game birds and game mammals;
- (2) Inserting language that requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to identify the public lands on each of the islands of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, and Hawaii, that are the most appropriate for becoming designated as public hunting areas for the hunting of game birds and game mammals without conflicting with other land uses;
- (3) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (4) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.



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 is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2130, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2130, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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

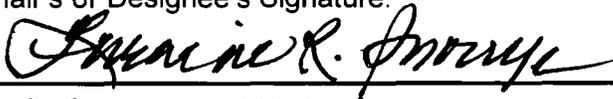


CHRIS LEE, Chair



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:		
SB 2130	WLA, WAM	2-13-2026		
<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
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley				✓
LAMOSAO, Rachele	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
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