

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2665

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2374
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 Economic Development and Tourism and
Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2374
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A BLUE ECONOMY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Blue Economy Working Group to study how to
develop and support marine-based economic activities
that align with the State's decarbonization and
restorative food production goals; and
- (2) Require a report to the Legislature.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Imua Alliance,
Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and three individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this
measure from one individual.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.



Your Committees find that blue economic ventures align directly with the State's economic and climate goals. As the blue economy expands, it offers opportunities for economic diversification, high-wage job creation, and decarbonization. While the State possesses a strategic advantage in marine-based industries due to its ocean geography and unique cultural heritage, a coordinated cross-sector policy framework is necessary to compete with other coastal states and nations as an epicenter of blue economy innovation. This measure establishes a sustainable framework to capitalize on the blue economy to advance the State's climate, food production, and equity objectives.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

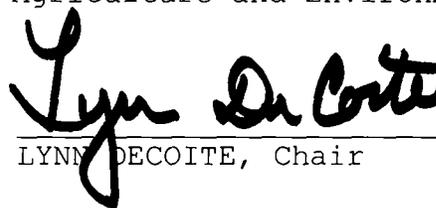
- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2374, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2374, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Economic
Development and Tourism and
Agriculture and Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



LYNN DECOITE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
EDT

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|--|---|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2374 | Committee Referral: EDT/AEN_WAM | Date: 02/19/26 | | |
| <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 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 |
| DECOITE, Lynn (C) | ✓ | | | |
| WAKAI, Glenn (VC) | ✓ | | | |
| FUKUNAGA, Carol | ✓ | | | |
| KIM, Donna Mercado | ✓ | | | |
| FEVELLA, Kurt | ✓ | | | |
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| TOTAL | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 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

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------|----------|-----|----------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* | Committee Referral: | Date: | | |
| SB 2374 | EDT/AEN, WAM | 2-18-26 | | |
| <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 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 |
| GABBARD, Mike (C) | X | | | |
| RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC) | X | | | |
| DECOITE, Lynn | X | | | |
| RHOADS, Karl | X | | | |
| AWA, Brenton | | | | X |
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| 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 | | | | |

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