

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2893

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2975
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 Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2975, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources to:

- (1) Close all or portions of any marine life conservation district on Oahu for various periods of time; and
- (2) Adopt rules for the regulation of commercial activity within a marine life conservation district on Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hui Aloha Kiholo, Ocean Tourism Coalition, Friends of Hanauma Bay, Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea, Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force, The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra, Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and six individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the number of visitors to certain marine life conservation districts has increased over time, leading to declining ecosystem conditions, such as reduced fish abundance, decreased species richness, and worsening coral health. This measure would enable the Department of Land and Natural Resources to exercise greater control over visitor numbers and commercial activities to protect and preserve certain marine life conservation districts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2975, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce and
Consumer Protection,



ARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2975 SDI	WLA, CPN	3/4/2026
<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 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	
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓	
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓	
LAMOSAO, Rachele	✓	
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.		✓
AWA, Brenton		✓
TOTAL	3	1
1	1	
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
<i>Carol Fukunaga</i>		
Distribution:		
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Committee	Pink Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes