

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 , 2026

RE: S.B. No. 3247
S.D. 1
H.D. 2

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 3247, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a temporary Royal Mausoleum Working Group within the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the stewardship of Mauna 'Ala.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of 'Ōiwi Resources, County of Maui; Royal Order of Kamehameha I; Moanalua Gardens Foundation; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; 'Aha Hipu'u; Kamehameha Schools; 'Ahahui Ka'iulani; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Daughters and Sons of the Hawaiian Warriors-Māmakakaua and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that Mauna 'Ala is a site of significant historical and cultural importance that should be managed in a culturally appropriate and sensitive manner. Your Committee further finds that long-term stewardship of Mauna 'Ala would



benefit from a permanent, culturally grounded governance structure within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee concludes that the version of this measure, as originally introduced, is preferable, as it establishes a Royal Mausoleum Commission within the Department of Land and Natural Resources to fulfill that role.

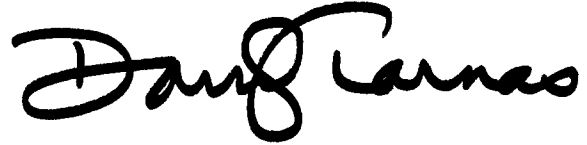
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting the contents of this measure as it was introduced, which establishes a Royal Mausoleum Commission within the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and implement policy for the preservation, operation, and outreach of Mauna 'Ala;
- (2) Amending the membership of the Royal Mausoleum Commission;
- (3) Deleting language that would have allowed the Royal Mausoleum Commission to employ an executive director and other staff;
- (4) Clarifying that the Legislature may appropriate funds to support the operations of the Royal Mausoleum Commission;
- (5) Recognizing the kahu of Mauna 'Ala as the individual responsible for the cultural, traditional, and spiritual care of the iwi kūpuna interred at Mauna 'Ala;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3247, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3247, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.



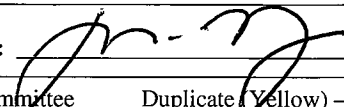
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: SB3247 (DI HDI)		Committee Referral: WAL, JHA, FIN		Date: 3/25/2026	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
JHA Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)		✓			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)		✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au		✓			
4. COCHRAN, Elle					✓
5. HASHEM, Mark J.					✓
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin		✓			
7. SAYAMA, Jackson D.					✓
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg		✓			
9. GARCIA, Diamond		✓			
10. SHIMIZU, Garner M.			✓		
TOTAL (10)		6	1	0	3
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					