

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3574

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 08 2026

RE: S.C.R. No. 117

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Water, Land, Culture and the Arts, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 117 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NOMINATING JOHN D. WAIHE'E III FOR INDUCTION INTO THE ALOHA ORDER OF MERIT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to nominate John D. Waihe'e III for induction into the Aloha Order of Merit.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, one member of the Honolulu City Council, Kalihi Pālana Hawaiian Civic Club, 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u, and one individual.

Your Committees find that John D. Waihe'e III's lifelong commitment to the people of the State, particularly to the advancement of Native Hawaiian rights, reflects the highest ideals of public service as his personal dedication to serve others embodies the aloha spirit and his professional legacy stands as pioneering in the fields of indigenous rights and native self-governance. Furthermore, he was the first Native Hawaiian to be elected as Governor of any state in the United States, which is a milestone of profound significance not only for the State, but for indigenous people everywhere as his leadership embodied hope and representation, and the restoration of Native Hawaiian presence in positions of the highest governance. Your Committees further find



that his legacy is both broad and deeply rooted as he helped establish the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, elevate 'Ōlelo Hawai'i as an official language, expand access to health care through the QUEST program, support economic diversification during times of transition, and strengthen the education system locally and nationally. Your Committee believes that John D. Waihe'e III meets the requirements and deserves to be inducted into the Aloha Order of Merit.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Water, Land, Culture and the Arts that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 117 and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Hawaiian Affairs
and Water, Land, Culture and
the Arts,



CHRIS LEE, Chair

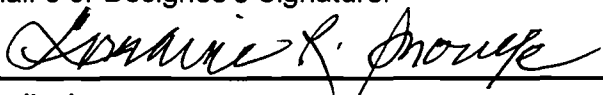


HERBERT M. RICHARDS, III, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts
WLA

Bill / Resolution No.:* SCR 117	Committee Referral: HWN/WLA	Date: 4-8-2026		
<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
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