

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3500

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 08 2026

RE: S.R. No. 175

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.R. No. 175 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING STATE AGENCIES THAT OWN OR CONTROL LAND IN WEST MAUI TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE AGGRESSIVE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT, FUEL REDUCTION, DEFENSIBLE SPACE, AND EMERGENCY ACCESS MEASURES TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK TO LAHAINA AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge state agencies that own or control land in West Maui to implement and enforce aggressive vegetation management, fuel reduction, defensible space, and emergency access measures to reduce wildfire risk to Lahaina and surrounding communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that state agencies, such as the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, control substantial lands in the Lahaina area. It is crucial for these agencies to reduce hazardous vegetation and strengthen defensible space around residential communities, temporary housing areas for wildfire survivors, schools, and major evacuation routes to prevent the

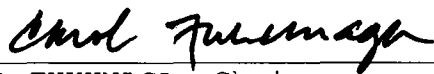


spread of fire to vulnerable areas. This measure supports public safety in Lahaina and its surrounding communities by urging state agencies to implement certain fire control measures in West Maui.

Your Committee notes the testimony of the Department of Land and Natural Resources that the Department of the Attorney General has already hired the Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization to create a statewide wildfire action plan based on recommendations from the Fire Safety Research Institute. Your Committee further notes the request by the Department of Land and Natural Resources that any actions outlined in this measure should align with the Fire Safety Research Institute's recommendations and be guided by the upcoming statewide wildfire action plan, which will serve as the main framework for setting priorities and carrying out fire safety efforts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 175 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety and
Military Affairs,



CAROL FUKUNAGA, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 175	Committee Referral: PSM	Date: 4/1/26		
<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 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
FUKUNAGA, Carol (C)	✓			
LEE, Chris (VC)	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.				✓
DECORTE, Samantha				✓
TOTAL	3			2
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**