

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3426

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 06 2026

RE: S.R. No. 176

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred S.R. No. 176 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO ADOPT ORDINANCES THAT ESTABLISH WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE SAFETY STANDARDS FOR PLANTATION TOWNS AND OTHER HIGH-RISK COMMUNITIES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE COUNTY OF KAUAI'S ORDINANCE NO. PM-2025-425, RELATING TO THE PLANTATION CAMP DISTRICT WILDFIRE AND WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE, AND OTHER STATE AND NATIONAL WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE BEST PRACTICES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the County of Maui to adopt ordinances that establish wildland-urban interface safety standards for plantation towns and other high-risk communities, taking into account the County of Kauai's ordinance No. PM-2025-425, relating to the Plantation Camp District wildfire and wildland urban interface, and other state and national wildland-urban interface best practices.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the American Institute of Architects Hawai'i.

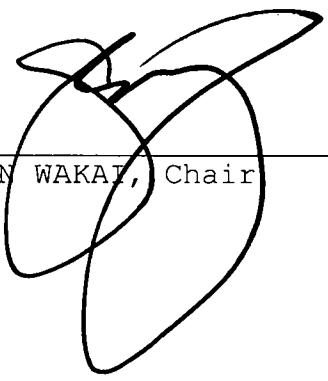
Your Committees find that the 2023 Maui wildfires demonstrated how quickly wildfires can transition into urban conflagration, resulting in catastrophic loss of life, property, and cultural resources. Many states and counties across the



country have already adopted wildland-urban interface (WUI) safety standards into local zoning ordinances and building codes to address this risk. The WUI safety standards incorporated by other jurisdictions, such as ignition-resistant construction, defensible space, and vegetation management, are widely recognized as best practices that reduce risk from ember intrusion and structure-to-structure fire spread. By urging the County of Maui to adopt ordinances based on these standards and Kauai County's ordinance No. PM-2025-425, this measure is a critical step toward protecting the State's communities, including historic plantation towns.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 176 and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Public Safety and
Military Affairs and Energy and
Intergovernmental Affairs,



GLENN WAKAI, Chair




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 176	Committee Referral: PSM/ELG	Date: 3/31/26		
<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.	✓			
INOUE, Lorraine R.				✓
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"></div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

