



The Plumbers and Fitters UA Local 675

1109 Bethel Street, Lower Level, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

'A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia

April 8, 2026

State Senate- Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts

Senator Chris Lee, Chair, Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

Reference: **SCR165/ SR156, Designating the Month of March 2026 as March4Water Month in Hawai`i**

Hearing: Wednesday, April 08, 2026, Room 224

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members;

The Plumbers and Fitters UA Local 675 ("Local 675") are one of three licensed crafts in Hawai'i's construction industry. Its member apprentices and journeymen are guided by and licensed in accordance with the Uniform Plumbing Code ("UPC"), published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials ("IAPMO") who's stated purpose is providing minimum requirements and standards for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare¹.

Local 675 strongly supports SCR165/SR156 designating the month of March 2026 as March4Water month in Hawai`i, however **respectfully request that your committee consider removing reference specific to 2026 and make the month of March, March4Water month in perpetuity.**

"Rooted in the Hawaiian value that wai is life, stewardship of water reflects the deep cultural and spiritual connection between people and 'āina. In Hawaiian tradition, waiwai, meaning wealth, derives from the word wai, underscoring that true prosperity is measured by the health and abundance of our water resources. The protection of streams, aquifers, and coastal waters honors the legacy of 'ike kūpuna and affirms our collective kuleana to mālama i ka wai for present and future generations".²

In partnership with IAPMO and other industry stakeholders, the Plumbers and Fitters UA Local 675 strongly supports SCR165/SR156 which recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives, and hope to bring attention and awareness to the full lifecycle of water, from its source, to its transmission, distribution, and use, its sanitary disposal, and its ultimate recycle and reuse.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of these resolutions.

¹ See 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code, as published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, Section 101.3.

² See The Hawai`i County Council Honorary Certificate recognizing the month of March as March4Water month, March 18, 2026.