

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1671

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 23 2015

RE: H.C.R. No. 119
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred
H.C.R. No. 119 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING A STUDY OF LIMU AND
REEF FISH DECLINE IN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE EWA COAST OF OAHU,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Department of Land and Natural Resources to study the causes of
the decline of limu and reef fish for the area of the Ewa Coast of
Oahu that stretches from the easternmost point of Pu'uloa to
Barber's Point, and develop recommendations on what actions need
to be taken to stop the decline and replenish the limu and reef
fish supply.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Aha Moku Advisory Committee; University of Hawaii Alumni
Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural
Resources.

Your Committee finds that there has been a steep decline of
limu along the Ewa Coast of Oahu. Limu played an important part
in the ancient Native Hawaiian diet. Your Committee further finds
that the Ewa Coast of Oahu is also experiencing a markedly steep
decline in reef fish. Over-picking and over-fishing, improper
harvesting, climate change, urban development, stream flow
diversion, and invasive species are among the factors that can



cause declines in the supply of limu and reef fish, and ultimately the destruction of Hawaii's coral reefs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the language referencing the necessity to determine the causes of declines since a study is not needed;
- (2) Clarifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to provide a report to the Legislature of its recommendations on what actions are needed to stop the decline and replenish the supply of limu and reef fish from the easternmost point of Pu'uloa to Barber's Point;
- (3) Amending the title accordingly; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 119, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 119, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water and Land,



LAURA H. THIELEN, Chair



