

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2949

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 15 2018

RE: H.B. No. 1934  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2018  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 1934, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit the Department of Health from approving the construction of sewage wastewater injection wells, with limited exceptions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the City and County of Honolulu Department of Environmental Services and one individual.

Your Committee finds that according to the Environmental Protection Agency's 2016 Underground Injection Well Inventory, Hawaii has over 6,600 injection wells, which place fluid underground into porous geologic formations as a means of storing carbon dioxide and disposing of waste, among other uses. Your Committee further finds that sewage wastewater injection wells can be hazardous to the environment and pose a risk to the health and safety of the public; therefore, your Committee believes that construction of sewage wastewater injection wells should be



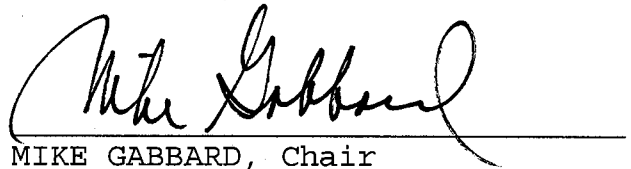
prohibited in the State, to the extent that such a ban is practicable.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing an applicant to construct a sewage wastewater injection well if the applicant demonstrates that the applicant will endure undue hardship if the well is not constructed;
- (2) Directing the Department of Health to adopt administrative rules pursuant to Chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon its approval; 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 Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1934, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1934, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Agriculture and  
Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1934 HD 1	AEN, CPH	3/12/18		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RIVIERE, Gil (VC)	X			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	0	0	0
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>GP Riviere</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b>				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes