

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1233

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2021

RE: H.B. No. 1019
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 1019, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OCEAN STEWARDSHIP,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a five-year Ocean Stewardship Special Fund for the collection and use of monies for the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of the State's marine resources; and
- (2) Authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to collect fees for the use and enjoyment of the State's ocean resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo, Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition, The Nature Conservancy, Ocean Tourism Coalition, and Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea. Your Committee received comments on the measure from the Pacific Whale Foundation.

Your Committee finds that DLNR needs additional revenue to ensure the health of our nearshore marine ecosystems for present



and future generations. According to testimony received by your Committee, if the ocean stewardship user fee is set at a fixed \$1 rate, even with SARS-CoV-2 virus impacts, the State is estimated to generate a net present value of \$14.4 million over a fifteen-year time horizon. Your Committee notes that although this measure repeals the Ocean Stewardship Special Fund on June 30, 2026, the fees, revenues, and other monies to be deposited into the fund are not repealed nor diverted. Your Committee further notes that with the delayed collection of the ocean stewardship user fee, DLNR would have under three years to use the monies collected, thus obstructing its ability to engage in long-term planning for ocean stewardship projects.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the sunset date of the Ocean Stewardship Special Fund from June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2030;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) 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 is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1019, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1019, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>HB 1019, HD 2</i>	Committee Referral: <i>WTL, WAM</i>	Date: <i>3/15/21</i>
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	<i>5</i>			

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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*Only one measure per Record of Votes