

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1071

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 19 2007

RE: H.B. No. 400  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 400, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to assist in the planning and implementing of a long range plan that will help Hawaii's agricultural industry achieve self-sufficiency during times of drought.

The measure accomplishes this purpose by appropriating funds for each county to adequately implement drought mitigation strategies and plans.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Department of Agriculture; two Council Members, County of Maui; the Department of Water, County of Kauai; the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; the Maui County Farm Bureau; the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center; and the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association.

The effects of droughts can be devastating for Hawaii agricultural producers. Droughts can last for years and during that time, crop yields can fall dramatically and farms can close. In addition to agriculture and livestock industries, droughts affect water supply, commerce, the environment, and public health.



The Hawaii Drought Plan and the County Drought Mitigation Strategies identify and recommend the implementation of drought mitigation actions, subject to available funding. These drought mitigation strategies were developed in consultation with key stakeholders who participated as representative members on each respective local county drought committees. The county committees identified and prioritized projects to help reduce the impact of droughts in their communities. Your Committee finds that an appropriation of funds will signal the importance of these projects and assist in the implementation of the drought strategies and plans in each county.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:


- (1) Adding a new part to this measure and adopting the language in S.B. No. 1941, S.D. 1, that appropriates \$11,000,000 in general obligation bonds to be deposited into the Irrigation Repair and Maintenance Special Fund for repair and maintenance of irrigation systems in East Kaua'i, Waimanalo, Moloka'i, Upcountry Maui, Ka'u, Honomalino, Wahiawa, and other privately-owned irrigation systems on former sugarcane and pineapple plantation lands that have been converted to diversified agriculture;
- (2) Changing the effective date of this measure from July 1, 2020, to effective upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of style and consistency.

Your Committee believes that this measure, as amended, fulfills the purpose of this measure, which is to assist in the planning and implementing of a long range plan that will help Hawaii's agricultural industry.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 400, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 400, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.



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




RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs**  
**WAH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 400 HDI	WAH, WAM	03/14/07		
<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
KOKUBUN, Russell S. (C)	X			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)	X			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	X			
HEE, Clayton				X
SLOM, Sam	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	0	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency		

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes