

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

870

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 02 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1988  
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 Commerce, Consumer Protection, and  
Affordable Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 1988 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HONEY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish labeling  
requirements for honey not produced in Hawaii and to add  
definitions related to honey to chapter 147, Hawaii Revised  
Statutes (HRS).

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Hawaii Beekeepers' Association and one individual.  
Testimony in opposition to this measure was submitted by the  
Department of Health. Comments were received from the Department  
of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds the honey industry and the honey bees  
that produce Hawaii honey are a critical part of the agricultural  
production chain and that Hawaii honey needs to be protected and  
distinguished from honey that is imported to the State.

In addition, your Committee finds that unwary consumers  
should be protected from purchasing imported honey that does not  
disclose its true content or attempts to mislead consumers through  
its labeling.



The intent of this measure is to protect consumers by establishing labeling requirements for honey imported to and sold in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure, based partially upon the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture, by:

- (1) Removing section 1 of the bill to clarify that the intent is the accuracy of labeling;
- (2) Removing the reference to the Department of Agriculture in determining whether honey has been adulterated within the meaning of section 328-9, HRS;
- (3) Removing country of origin labeling requirements and replacing the language with a requirement to disclose the percentage of Hawaii produced honey in each package;
- (4) Requiring the Department of Agriculture to work with interested parties to develop labeling requirements and procedures regarding the disclosure of the country of origin of honey sold in and imported to the State;
- (5) Changing the effective date to promote further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1988, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1988, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.



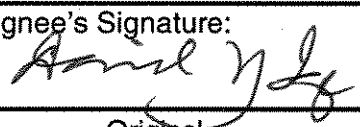
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer  
Protection, and Affordable  
Housing,

  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing**  
**CPH**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1988</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH</b>	Date: <b>2/21/07</b>		
<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
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
IGE, David Y. (VC)	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
SAKAMOTO, Norman				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:            Original            Yellow            Pink File with Committee Report            Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes