

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1719

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 S.B. No. 1719 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LOANS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to increase the monetary limit of loans that the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture can approve from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, the Hawaii Aquaculture Association, and the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center.

Your Committee finds that increasing the monetary limit of the loans that the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture can approve from \$25,000 to \$50,000 will help farmers acquire the resources they need to maintain and expand their operations. Your Committee notes that the current approval limit of \$25,000 has not been increased since the authority was granted in 1982, and the agriculture, aquaculture, and bank industries have undergone tremendous changes since that time.

The intent of this measure is to provide greater authority over the amount of loans that may be approved by the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture to take into account the rise in operating costs that farmers face.



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 S.B. No. 1719 and recommends that it pass Second Reading 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.:* S.B. 1719	Committee Referral: WAH, WAM	Date: 2/14/07		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
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