

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2187

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2643
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2643 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IRRIGATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to provide additional funding needed for the repair and maintenance of irrigation systems throughout the State, including additional personnel for the Department of Agriculture to improve oversight and management of the irrigation systems.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness Development Corporation, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Maui County Farm Bureau, Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee finds that a reliable irrigation system is the lifeblood of Hawaii's agricultural industry. To ensure that Hawaii's crops receive a steady and dependable supply of water, sufficient funding is needed to maintain and improve Hawaii's irrigation systems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Correcting the SR designation for the converted clerk-typist position to SR-10; and

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- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2643, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2643, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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



JILL TOKUDA, Chair



