

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2007

RE: S.B. No. 835

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

Madam:

Your Committees on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs and Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 835 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to support the diversified agriculture industry by appropriating funds for the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to develop a long range plan for a food innovation and security center to develop and promote new, safe, high-quality, high-value agricultural products from Hawaii.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii; the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; Maui County Farm Bureau; Big Island Candies; and the Hawaii Food Industry Association.

Agriculture and its value-added products contribute \$2,400,000,000 to the State's economy and employ more than 38,000 people. The value of diversified agriculture has more than doubled during the past twenty-five years, and this growth indicates an improvement in the State's food security and lessens the State's dependence on food imports. Despite these favorable numbers, more needs to be done to ensure a higher level of food security and self-sufficiency for the State.

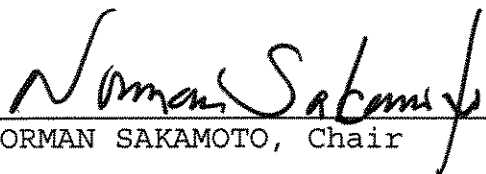


Your Committees find that creating a food innovation and security center will assist Hawaii's agricultural and value-added businesses to bring to market products whose quality and value offset the State's high costs of land, labor, water, and transportation. This center will focus on Hawaii's statewide food needs by providing value-added businesses assistance with developing new products from Hawaii-grown produce, and providing agricultural producers assistance with producing safe, wholesome foods that meet Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), and Health Approved Safety Standards Protection (HASSP) certification standards.

Your Committees believe that this measure will support and assist in the expansion of diversified agriculture. A food innovation and security center will promote the production of high-quality, high-value, safety-certified food products for both local and export markets, which will result in the continued growth of Hawaii's diversified agricultural industry.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs and Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 835 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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



NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair


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:		
SB 835	WAH/EDM, WAM	2/2/07		
<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 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			
TOTAL	5			0
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

The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Education
EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 835</i>	Committee Referral: <i>WATT/EDU, WATT</i>	Date: <i>02/02/07</i>		
<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
SAKAMOTO, Norman (C)	X			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)	X			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	X			
HEE, Clayton				XXXX JJ
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				X JJ
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				X JJ
GABBARD, Mike	X			
TOTAL	<i>5</i>			<i>2</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Jill</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes