

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 06 2007

RE: S.B. No. 847
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 S.B. No. 847 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 to each county to adequately implement drought mitigation strategies and plans.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and the Maui County Farm Bureau.

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



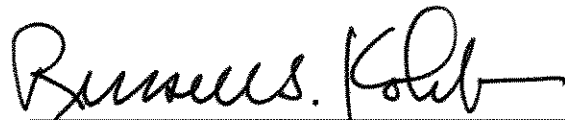
mitigation strategies were developed in consultation with key stakeholders who participated as representative members on each respective local county drought committees. The county committees identified and prioritized projects to help reduce the impact of droughts in their communities. Your Committee 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) Deleting the total dollar amount and leaving it blank for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to determine;
- (2) Identifying each county for a separate appropriation, and leaving each dollar amount blank for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to determine; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of style and consistency.

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. 847, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 847, 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.:* SB 847	Committee Referral: WAH, WAM	Date: JAN. 31, 2007		
<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			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">  </div>				
Distribution:	Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes