

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 06 2007

RE: S.B. No. 950

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. 950 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TARO,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish kalo, or taro, as the official state plant of Hawaii.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Oahu Council, Association of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and a private individual.

Taro is sacred to Native Hawaiians and is an integral part of the Native Hawaiian culture. Taro is a culturally significant plant to the kanaka maoli, Hawaii's indigenous people. According to the kumulipo, the Hawaiian creation chant, Hawaiian genealogy emerges from the kalo plant. Taro holds great cultural, religious, and historic meaning to Native Hawaiians and is highly respected and revered. Your Committee finds that establishing the kalo plant as the official state plant will ensure continued respect for this sacred ancestor of the Native Hawaiian people.

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. 950 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.



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.:* <b>SB 950</b>	Committee Referral: <b>WAH</b>	Date: <b>FEB. 2, 2007</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 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>1</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