

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

573

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 1663

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred
H.B. No. 1663 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TARO SECURITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to protect traditional varieties
of taro in Hawaii by banning the development, testing,
propagation, releasing, importation, planting, and growing of
genetically modified taro in the State of Hawaii.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Association of Hawaiian Civic
Clubs, KAHEA-The Hawaiian Environmental Alliance, Sierra Club,
Hawaii Chapter, Waikiki Hawaiian Civic Club, Hawaii SEED, Hawaiian
Political Action Council of Hawaii, 'Imi Hale-Native Hawaiian
Cancer Network, Papa Ola Lokahi, Kipahulu 'Ohana, GMO Free Kauai,
and numerous concerned individuals testified in support of this
bill. The Department of Agriculture, Hawaii Farm Bureau
Federation, and Hawaii Crop Improvement Association testified in
opposition to this measure.

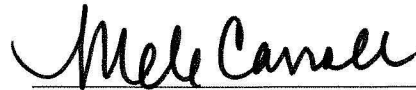
Taro has long been held as a culturally significant plant by
the kanaka maoli, or indigenous people of Hawaii. Not only has
taro served as an important food source for the people of Hawaii
but this plant has also had genealogical, spiritual, and cultural
links to native Hawaiians which continues to this day. Your
Committee finds that protecting this important plant deserves
further consideration.

HB1663 HSCR HAW HMS 2009-2340



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1663 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

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



MELE CARROLL, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fifth Legislature

HSCR 513

Record of Votes of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1663	Committee Referral: HAW, AGR	Date: 2-18-09		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HAW Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. CARROLL, Mele (C)	/			
2. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (VC)	/			
3. BELATTI, Della Au	/			
4. BERTRAM, Joe, III				/
5. BROWER, Tom	/			
6. MIZUNO, John M.				/
7. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	/			
8. YAMANE, Ryan I.	/			
9. WARD, Gene	/			
TOTAL (9)	7	0	0	2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				