

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

903

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 6, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 975
H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 975
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL WATER SYSTEMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide additional flexibility to the operations of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) by authorizing ADC to acquire, or contract to acquire, by grant, purchase, or gift the real, personal, or mixed property comprising an agricultural water system to provide water for irrigation of agricultural lands. In addition, this bill:

- (1) Requires the owner of an agricultural water system that is to be acquired under this bill to provide a description of the system sufficient to identify the property being acquired; and
- (2) Exempts conveyance of agricultural water system property to ADC from county subdivision requirements.

ADC, Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Kamehameha Schools, Ka'u Farm Bureau, and Kahuku Brand Matsuda Fukuyama Farms testified in support of this bill. The Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu opposed this measure.

HB975 HD1 HSCR FIN HMS 2009-2785

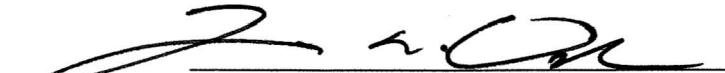


Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2020, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 975, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 975, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Finance,



MARCUS R. OSHIRO, Chair



