

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1541

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 29 2009

RE: H.C.R. No. 113

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 113 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONSULT WITH OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO OPTIMIZE THE USE OF THE KAMUELA VACUUM COOLING PLANT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Agriculture to consult with other public and private entities to develop a plan to optimize the use of the Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by two public citizens. One state agency submitted comments. Written testimony presented to your Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Hawaii imports eighty-five per cent of its food, at an estimated cost of \$4,500,000,000 annually, however, Hawaii farmers face formidable challenges in competing with mainland and foreign farmers. Agricultural facilities such as vacuum cooling plants, slaughterhouses, processing facilities, experimental stations, marshalling yards, and agricultural research laboratories are critical to ensuring the viability of Hawaii's agricultural industry. The Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant on the island of Hawaii is operated by the Kamuela Farmers Cooperative, which consists of sixty members, and processes approximately seven million pounds of produce annually, while also providing storage



and limited processing services. However, the Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant is nearly thirty years old and has sustained severe wind damage that led to its roof being repaired in 2008 and the Plant's maintenance program is crippled by energy costs. Your Committee finds that a comprehensive plan is needed to ensure that the Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant is used in the most efficient and effective manner possible to support Hawaii's agricultural industry.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 113, and recommends its adoption.

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




CLAYTON HEE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HCR 113	WTL	4/27/09		
<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
HEE, Clayton (C)	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)				✓
BUNDA, Robert	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.				✓
TAKAMINE, Dwight Y.				✓
HEMMINGS, Fred	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	3
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes