

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 27, 2009

RE: S.B. No. 709  
S.D. 2  
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 Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred  
S.B. No. 709, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to protect Hawaiian taro by prohibiting genetically engineered taro from being developed, tested, propagated, released, imported, planted, or grown in the State of Hawaii.

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Orchid Growers of Hawaii, KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance, Kawaihapai Ohana, and numerous concerned individuals supported this bill. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs supported this measure with amendments. The Department of Agriculture, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, University of Hawaii, Hawaii Science & Technology Council, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, Tropical Hawaiian Products, and several concerned individuals opposed this measure. A concerned individual submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this bill by adding a definition for "Hawaiian taro." Other nonsubstantive amendments were made for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.



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 S.B. No. 709, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 709, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

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

*Mele Carroll*

MELE CARROLL, Chair



State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Twenty-fifth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>SB 709 SD2</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HAW, AGR</b>	Date: <b>3-18-2008</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" 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	✓			
<b>TOTAL (9)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
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; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				