

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

489

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 154
H.D. 2

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which
was referred H.B. No. 154, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Chairperson
of the Board of Agriculture to establish a two-year industrial
hemp remediation pilot program. This measure also appropriates
funds for the program.

Testimony in support of this measure was received from the
American Civil Liberties Union, Pacific Biodiesel Technologies,
and several concerned individuals. Testimony in opposition to the
measure was received from the Maui Police Department. Comments on
the measure were received from the Department of Public Safety and
the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that with its multiple growing seasons,
Hawaii is in a unique position to do research on hemp for
phytoremediation. Research that will help identify the varieties
of hemp best suited to remediation of contaminated soil serves the
interests of the State and the nation as a whole.

Your Committee also finds that Hawaii stands singularly
situated to demonstrate and promote the re-introduction of
industrial hemp as an alternative crop to meet the needs of our



nation for energy, food, fiber, and construction materials. The value of industrial hemp feedstock is immense.

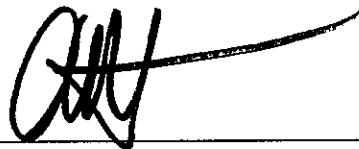
Your Committee notes that, in testimony, it was estimated that it would cost \$60,000 to start operation of the phytoremediation pilot project. Thus, it is the hope of your Committee that the Committee on Finance will thoroughly examine the financial implications of this measure, including the impact of expanding the pilot project to assess the viability of industrial hemp as a biofuel feedstock.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the scope of the pilot program to include the viability of industrial hemp as a biofuel feedstock; and
- (2) Changing the effective date of the measure to July 1, 2112, to promote continued discussion of the matter.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 154, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 154, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce,



ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



