

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 05 2013

RE: S.B. No. 1358

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 1358 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IRRIGATION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize general obligation bonds to make improvements to the Molokai Irrigation System.

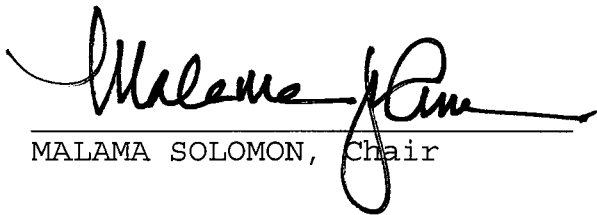
Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Molokai Chamber of Commerce, Molokai Ranch, Monsanto Molokai, Molokai Farm Bureau, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and four individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that the Molokai Irrigation System is the only agricultural water source on Molokai and is critical to Molokai's agriculture community and agricultural commerce. The Molokai Irrigation System is currently underutilized and needs repairs to operate at its full capacity to increase the supply of irrigation water. In the past three years, drought conditions have exacerbated the low supply of irrigation water on Molokai and have led to significant water use restrictions that have had a direct economic effect on the Molokai community. In the past three years, ninety jobs have been lost due to the drought's economic impact. Improving the Molokai Irrigation System and increasing the supply of irrigation water would significantly improve the agricultural economy and create an estimated one hundred thirty new jobs on Molokai alone.



As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1358 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Agriculture and  
Water and Land,

  
MALAMA SOLOMON, Chair

  
CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair





