

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 01 2013

RE: S.B. No. 326

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred S.B. No. 326 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a good agricultural practices task force to identify good agricultural practices and preventative measure guidelines in the food supply system to improve the overall safety of locally grown food.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii, Lani's Goats, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that good agricultural practices that will improve the safety of locally grown food are vital to the safety and security of the State and to the economic viability of local agriculture. Your Committee also finds that the federal Food Safety Modernization Act was recently enacted and the federal government is in the process of issuing regulations that will affect Hawaii's agricultural practices. The good agricultural practices task force will develop preventative measures and guidelines to improve food safety in Hawaii and will also provide a platform for the State to address the pending federal regulations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture that is attached to this report, your



Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 326 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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



CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



