

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1496

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 12 2013

RE: S.R. No. 85
S.D. 1

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.R. No. 85, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO IMPLEMENT A SCHEDULE OF REDUCED IRRIGATION WATER TOLL RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE ISLAND OF HAWAII AND HAMAKUA DISTRICT THAT DIFFERENTIATES AMONG DIFFERENT IRRIGATION SYSTEM AREAS AND AGRICULTURAL USERS TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF HAWAII-GROWN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES THROUGH INCREASED USE OF IRRIGATION WATER,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to promote the development and expansion of Hawaii-grown agricultural commodities through increased use of irrigation water.

Specifically, this measure requests the Department of Agriculture to implement a schedule of reduced irrigation water toll rates and charges for the island of Hawaii and Hamakua district that differentiates among different irrigation system areas and agricultural users for the growing of agricultural crops and the production of livestock and poultry. The measure also requests the Department of Agriculture to report to the Legislature on the implementation of a system of reduced toll rates for the island of Hawaii and Hamakua district no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014.



Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council and the Ulupono Initiative.

Your Committee finds that the current water toll rates and charges do not take into account the levels and amounts of water that would be appropriate for the various irrigation systems on the island of Hawaii to promote increased agricultural, livestock, and poultry production, and do not make allowances for the different classes of users who use different amounts of water for agricultural production. Your Committee believes reduced and differentiated rates for water use on Hawaii island and the Hamakua district would assist in the growth and development of the local agricultural industry and result in more efficient use of water.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 85, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Seventh Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SR85, SBI</i>	Committee Referral: <i>AGL/WTL, WAM</i>	Date: <i>4-5-13</i>		
<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
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.				✓
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	<i>12</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:right; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Michelle N. Kidani</div>				
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes