

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 08 2016

RE: H.B. No. 1996
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Judiciary and Labor and Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1996, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to focus on investigating and prosecuting agricultural theft or agricultural vandalism in the County of Hawaii; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for establishing and implementing the pilot project.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Fish Company; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawaii Farmers and Ranchers United; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Ponoholo Ranch Limited; and eighty-nine individuals.

Your Committees find that agricultural theft and vandalism in the County of Hawaii are impediments to running a successful and profitable farming operation and harmful to consumers. Agricultural theft and vandalism are a serious, ongoing problem, with farmers reporting theft of crops, animals, equipment, and



tools, and vandalized fences and gates. Since many incidents of agricultural theft and vandalism are not reported, the annual monetary losses can only be estimated, which is in the millions of dollars. By establishing an agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project for the County of Hawaii, this measure provides additional focus on investigating and prosecuting agriculture theft and vandalism.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of January 7, 2059, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary and Labor and Ways and Means that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1996, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1996, H.D. 1, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Judiciary and
Labor and Ways and Means,



JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair

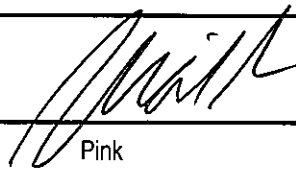


GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1996 HDI	Committee Referral: WLA/PSM, JDL/WAM	Date: 4/4/16		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (C)	/			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (VC)	/			
GABBARD, Mike	/			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i				/
KIM, Donna Mercado				/
THIELEN, Laura H.				/
SLOM, Sam	/			
TOTAL	4			3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

