

Honolulu, Hawaii
February 19, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 2596

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 2596 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE MACADAMIA FELTED COCCID,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to protect macadamia nuts, among the five top-grossing agricultural commodities grown in the State, from the threat of the macadamia felted coccid that could devastate the macadamia nut industry by appropriating funds for:

- (1) The Department of Agriculture (DOA), in cooperation with the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), to research and develop methods for the prevention and treatment of macadamia felted coccid;
- (2) CTAHR, in cooperation with DOA, to research and develop methods for the prevention and treatment of macadamia felted coccid, including new chemical research on cultivating macadamia nuts; and
- (3) Hiring an extension agent at CTAHR to work on macadamia nut cultivation, post-harvest handling, and processing concerns, consistent with the Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association research priority goals.

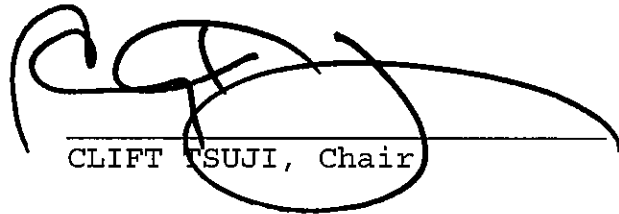


The Department of Agriculture, University of Hawaii System, Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii, Hawaii Farm Bureau, Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association, Royal Hawaiian Orchards, ILWU Local 142, and two concerned individuals supported this measure.

Your Committee notes that at this point in the legislative process, the appropriation for the research and hiring of an extension agent to address the threat of the macadamia felted coccid is unspecified and further discussion is necessary to determine a recommended amount.

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 H.B. No. 2596 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.


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



CLIFT TSUJI, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture

| Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2596 | Committee Referral: AGR, FIN | Date: 2/18/2016 | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure. | | | | |
| The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit) | | | | |
| AGR Members | Ayes | Ayes (WR) | Nays | Excused |
| 1. TSUJI, Clift (C) | / | | | |
| 2. ONISHI, Richard H.K. (VC) | / | | | |
| 3. BROWER, Tom | / | | | |
| 4. CACHOLA, Romy M. | / | | | |
| 5. CHOY, Isaac W. | / | | | |
| 6. DeCOITE, Lynn | / | | | |
| 7. ITO, Ken | / | | | |
| 8. KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K. | / | | | |
| 9. KONG, Sam Satoru | / | | | |
| 10. OHNO, Takashi | / | | | |
| 11. TOKIOKA, James Kunane | / | | | |
| 12. WOODSON, Justin H. | / | | | |
| 13. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani | / | | | |
| 14. WARD, Gene | / | | | |
| TOTAL (14) | 14 | | | |
| The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s) | | | | |
| Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u></u> | | | | |
| Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO | | | | |