

Honolulu, Hawaii
March 4, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 2657
H.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 2657, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to financially assist farmers and ranchers on Molokai with the costs of complying with federal and state food safety laws by, among other things:

- (1) Expanding the Maui County Revolving Loan Program to include the provision of financial assistance to qualified applicants for costs incurred in complying with the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act and state food safety laws; and
- (2) Appropriating funds for the Maui Office of Economic Development to review and approve cost reimbursement applications.

A Councilmember of the Maui County Council; Hawaii Farm Bureau; and one concerned individual supported this measure. The Department of Agriculture provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:


- (1) Establishing a cost reimbursement program instead of a revolving loan program;



- (2) Specifying that no cost reimbursement shall be allowed for costs that were incurred more than five years prior to the time the application for cost reimbursement is received by the County of Maui;
- (3) Removing the provision that allowed for payments, interest, and fees collected to be deposited into a revolving fund;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2030, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2657, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2657, H.D. 2.

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



SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSCR 944-16

Record of Votes of the Committee on Finance

Bill/Resolution No.: HB2657 HD1	Committee Referral: AGR/EDB, FIN	Date: 03/01/16		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" 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)				
FIN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LUKE, Sylvia (C)	//			
2. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y. (VC)	//			
3. CACHOLA, Romy M.	//			
4. CULLEN, Ty J.K.	//			
5. DeCOITE, Lynn	//			
6. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling	//			
7. JORDAN, Jo	//			
8. KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett	//			
9. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand	//			
10. LoPRESTI, Matthew S.	//			
11. LOWEN, Nicole E.	//			
12. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	//			
13. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	//			
14. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	//			
15. POUHA, Feki	//			
16. WARD, Gene	//			
TOTAL (16)	66			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
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