STAND. COM. REP. NO.

Honolulu, Hawaii February 9, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 2676

H.D. 1

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. 2676 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to assist and support persons who want to be farmers to meet the challenges faced by prospective farmers by mandating and funding the Agribusiness Incubator Program of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to establish a five-year Energy Independent Farming Community Pilot Project (Pilot Project) that shall, among other things:

- (1) Be owned and initially financed by the State and managed by a manager appointed by the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
- (2) Contain land, housing, and shared facilities for agricultural purposes, with lease rents set in an amount designed to finance the costs of the Pilot Project; and
- (3) Be energy and water independent.

The University of Hawaii System, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and several concerned individuals supported this measure. The Department of Agriculture and a concerned individual submitted comments on this measure.

HB2676 HD1 HSCR AGR HMS 2016-1610

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting the amounts appropriated for the manager position and for planning the Pilot Project to facilitate further discussion.

Should the Committee on Finance deliberate this measure further, your Committee on Agriculture respectfully requests that it consider appropriating \$100,000 for the manager position and \$50,000 for planning the Pilot Project.

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. 2676, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2676, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

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

CLIFT TSUJI, Chair

## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-eighth Legislature #\$CR 94-16

## Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture

Bill/Resolution No.:  HB 2676	Committee Referral: AGR1HED, T	-1N Date $2$	-4-16	
☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to:  Pass, unamended (as is)  Pass, with amendments (HD)  Hold  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 Kealohila	ni			
14. WARD, Gene				
TOTAL (14)	14			
The recommendation is:  Adopted  If joint referral,  committee acronym(s)  Not Adopted  did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) - Committee Duplicate (Yellow) - Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) - HMSO				