

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1474

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 10 2015

RE: H.B. No. 823  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 823, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL THEFT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to improve enforcement mechanisms for agricultural theft or agricultural vandalism on the County of Hawaii.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires the Department of Agriculture to:
  - (A) Establish a two-year agricultural theft pilot project to focus on investigating and prosecuting agricultural theft or agricultural vandalism in the County of Hawaii;
  - (B) Partner with the County of Hawaii to hire an enforcement officer within the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawaii; and
  - (C) Assess the implementation of the pilot project and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature; and



- (2) Provides a grant-in-aid to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawaii, for the pilot project.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawaii; the Hawaii Farm Bureau; and the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association.

Your Committee finds that agricultural theft or agricultural vandalism has been a constant threat for farmers and ranchers in the County of Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that, due to the broad acreage that many farming operations encompass, it is often difficult for farmers to police their entire operations at all times. Your Committee believes that the enforcement mechanisms in this measure will help reduce the cost of production for farming operations in the County of Hawaii, thereby improving their chances for success.

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 is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 823, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



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JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
<b>HB823 HDL SD1</b>	<b>AGL/JDL, WAM</b>	<b>4/2/15</b>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>M. N. M.</i>				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes