

Honolulu, Hawaii
March 22, 2016

RE: H.R. No. 144

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.R. No. 144 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE PLANT QUARANTINE BRANCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to address concerns regarding the Department of Agriculture's ability to implement the Biosecurity Program, especially inspections at all ports of entry, by requesting the Auditor to:

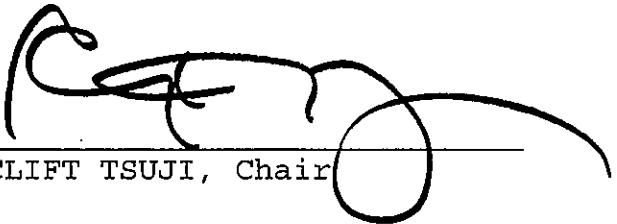
- (1) Conduct a financial and management audit of the Plant Quarantine Branch of the Department of Agriculture (Branch);
- (2) Based on the current state of the Branch, recommend the resources necessary for the Branch to fully and properly carry out its responsibilities; and
- (3) Submit a report to the Legislature on its findings and recommendations.

The Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association supported this measure. The Department of Agriculture submitted comments on this measure.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 144 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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

HSCR 1134-16

Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture

Bill/Resolution No.: HR 144	Committee Referral: AGR, FIN	Date: 3-18-16		
<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)	9			5
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 10pt;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				