

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2015

RE: S.B. No. 131

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

Madam:

Your Committees on Health and Agriculture, to which was referred S.B. No. 131 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD LABELING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish, beginning January 1, 2016, labeling requirements for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains a genetically engineered material or was produced with a genetically engineered material;
- (2) Establish exceptions related to labeling requirements;
- (3) Establish violations related to labeling requirements;
and
- (4) Require the Director of Health to adopt rules related to labeling requirements.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Center for Food Safety; Pacific Agricultural Land Management Systems; Hawaii Sustainable Farms, LLC; Americans for Democratic Action; Babes Against Biotech; and four hundred ninety-four individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Agriculture; University of Hawaii System; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawaii Food



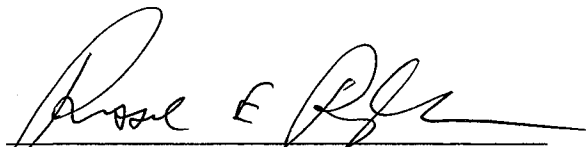
Industry Association; DuPont Pioneer; Western Plant Health Association; Biotechnology Industry Organization; Kamiya Gold, Inc.; Building Industry Association of Hawaii; Hawaii's Agricultural Partnerships; Omao Ranch Lands; Wine Institute; Agrium; Monsanto Hawaii; Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Farm Bureau; Island Princess; Hawaii Farmers and Ranchers United; and one hundred thirty-eight individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from eight individuals.

Your Committees find that there are growing concerns that genetically engineered material is harmful to public health and the environment. Your Committees further find that a large percentage of the population supports the right to know which food products contain genetically engineered material and prefers to make informed decisions when purchasing food.

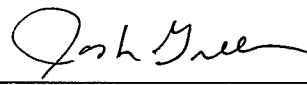
Your Committees note the concerns relating to the consideration of a food as having been produced with a genetically engineered material if the animal from which the food is derived has been fed genetically engineered material and requests that your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Ways and Means further examine this issue if they choose to hear this measure.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Agriculture that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 131 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and
Agriculture,



RUSSELL E. RUDERMAN, Chair




JOSH GREEN, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture
AGL

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 131	Committee Referral: HTH/AGL, CPN/WAM	Date: 2/19/15		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (C)	X			
RIVIERE, Gil (VC)	X			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	X			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				X
THIELEN, Laura H.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn		X		
SLOM, Sam				X
TOTAL	4	1	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes