

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

363

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2017

RE: H.B. No. 1578
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and
Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 1578 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate
funds for a Carbon Farming Task Force (Task Force), to identify
agricultural and aquacultural activities and best practices that
provide emissions source reduction or carbon sequestration
benefits.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii Alliance
for Progressive Action, Earth As One, Hawaii Center for Food
Safety, Surfrider Foundation's Oahu Chapter, GMO Free Maui, GMO
Free Kaua'i, We Are One, Inc., Sierra Club of Hawaii, and numerous
individuals supported this measure. The Office of Planning
supported the intent of this measure. The Office of Environmental
Control provided comments.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the scope of the Task Force's duties;
- (2) Adding the Director of the Office of Environmental
Quality Control or the Director's designee to the Task
Force's membership;

HB1578 HD1 HSCR EEP-AGR HMS 2017-1898



- (3) Allowing the Task Force's members to recommend additional individuals with the appropriate specialized expertise to the Task Force;
- (4) Inserting an unspecified appropriation amount;
- (5) Changing its effective date to January 28, 2081, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Should the Committee on Finance deliberate this measure further, your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture respectfully request that it consider appropriating \$50,000 for the Carbon Farming Task Force.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1578, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1578, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Energy &
Environmental Protection and
Agriculture,



RICHARD P. CREAGAN, Chair



CHRIS LEE, Chair



