

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 03 2017

RE: S.B. No. 612  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 612 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to reimburse qualified producers of certain products for their cost of feed; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to reimburse feed developers for the costs of feed development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Maui County Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; PonoHolo Ranch, Limited; and Meadow Gold Dairies. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the cost of imported feed for livestock production is increasing because of market forces and transportation expenses, and that the rising cost of imported feed is one of the biggest challenges for the State's livestock industry. Your Committee further finds that subsidizing a feed development program in the State to help address the needs of Hawaii's livestock producers and feed developers will benefit the State's economy and help meet the State's sustainability goals.

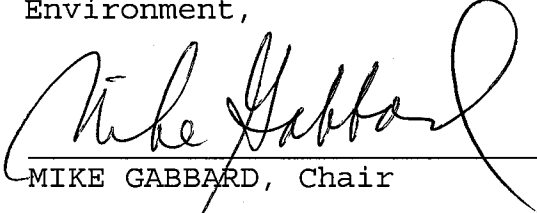


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) As recommended by the Department of Agriculture, inserting a new section to repeal the reference to the application of documentation of animal feed development costs for costs incurred after July 1, 2016, under the qualified feed developer grant program, section 155D-2.5(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to be consistent with the comparable provision in the qualified producer grant program, section 155D-2(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Specifying a total appropriation amount of \$2,000,000, with:
  - (A) \$1,000,000 allocated to reimburse qualified producers; and
  - (B) \$1,000,000 allocated to reimburse qualified feed developers; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 612, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 612, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.


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

  
MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB612	AEN, WAM	2/1/17		
<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 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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RIVIERE, Gil (VC)	X			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	0	0	0
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
<b>Distribution:</b>				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes