

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

479

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 16, 2017

RE: H.B. No. 1502  
H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 1502 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX EXEMPTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to encourage healthy eating habits by the people of Hawaii and to promote the success of local agriculture by establishing two general excise tax exemptions -- one for select healthy foods and one for locally grown food and food products.

Three concerned individuals supported this measure. A concerned individual opposed the measure. The Department of Agriculture, Department of Taxation, and Tax Foundation of Hawaii submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including additional healthy foods to which the general excise tax exemption can be applied;
- (2) Eliminating the general excise tax exemption for locally grown food and food products;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 31, 2150; and

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- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1502, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1502, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



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RICHARD P. CREAGAN, Chair



