

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

264

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2017

RE: S.B. No. 1205
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. 1205 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a reimbursement transportation cost payment program within the Department of Agriculture to reimburse geographically disadvantaged eligible producers for a portion of the cost to transport eligible commodities or inputs used to produce an eligible commodity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawaii Coffee Association; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; PonoHolo Ranch, Limited; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the ability for producers to transport agricultural commodities is critical as operations and markets expand. Transportation of agricultural commodities can be costly to producers already financially burdened by agricultural operation expenses. Your Committee finds that this measure seeks to provide financial relief to Hawaii's farmers and ranchers.

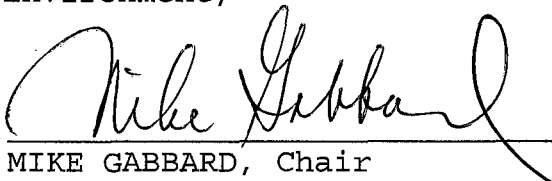
Your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Requiring the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program (Program);
- (2) Inserting an appropriation for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) program coordinator position within the Department of Agriculture for the Program; 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. 1205, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1205, 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:		
SB1205	AEN, W Am	2/13/17		
<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			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
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