

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

**2370**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 15 2018**

RE: S.B. No. 2928

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2018  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Education,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 2928 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL  
PROGRAM,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a  
three-year farm to school grant pilot program in the Department of  
Agriculture.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Education;  
University of Hawai'i System; State Procurement Office; American  
Heart Association; Hawai'i Farms to School Hui; Hawaii State  
Teachers Association; Ulupono Initiative; Maui School Garden  
Network; Mālama Kaua'i; Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation; Hawaii Primary  
Care Association; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Māla'ai: The  
Culinary Garden of Waimea Middle School on Hawaii Island; Hawai'i  
Pacific Health; Local Food Coalition; Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of  
the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery  
Association; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu;  
O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic  
Party of Hawai'i; and nine individuals. Your Committees received  
comments on this measure from the Department of Health.



Your Committees find that farm to school activities support a nutritious school food environment and that more than eighty-five percent of the youth in Hawaii attend public schools. Students who participate in farm to school activities are more likely to be familiar with, have a preference for, and consume more fruits and vegetables at school and at home, thereby establishing healthy behaviors at an early age that may prevent the onset of chronic diseases and other health conditions later in life. Your Committees further find that participation in the farm to school program may be financially challenging for many farmers due to the high costs of compliance with federal law and regulations regarding food safety.

Your Committees also find that eighty-eight percent of Hawaii's K-12 public non-charter schools have gardens, which range in their levels of quality, teacher and student involvement, and curricular integration. These programs range in size from individual planter boxes to large-scale school food farms and may or may not have a dedicated, trained, paid garden educator to support them. Your Committees find that the Department of Education's 'Aina Pono Farm to School Program aims to systematically increase state purchasing of local food for school menus; however, the full benefits of a farm to school program are only realized when high quality, well-rounded programs are in place, which include school gardens and relevant educational opportunities for all students. The Department of Agriculture farm to school program enables state efforts to go beyond the 'Aina Pono Farm to School Program by:

- (1) Increasing the procurement of locally grown foods for school meals and other state agencies;
- (2) Strengthening agriculture education for the development of future farmers;
- (3) Collecting statewide data via the Hawaii Farm to School Census;
- (4) Ensuring food safety practices on farms and in schools; and
- (5) Building inter-agency collaboration and public-private partnerships.



Your Committees conclude that a farm to school grant program is essential to the development and sustainability of successful school-level farm to school programs that provide a direct benefit to students and communities while ultimately ensuring the long term success of state-level farm to school efforts.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

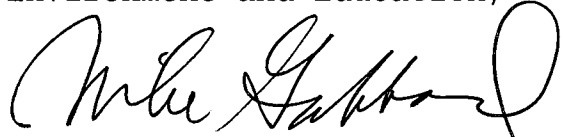
- (1) Deleting the appropriation for administrative costs of the pilot program;
- (2) Deleting the appropriation amount for the continuance of the Hawaii farm to school program and allocating unspecified portions of that amount for the farm to school coordinator position and for administrative expenses for the Hawaii farm to school program; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2928, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2928, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Agriculture and  
Environment and Education,



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair




MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

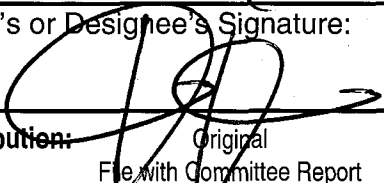
**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2928	AEN/EDU, WAM	2/7/18		
<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>	3	0	0	2
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Education**  
**EDU**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 2928</i>	Committee Referral: <i>AEN/EDU, WAM</i>	Date: <del>XX</del> <i>FEB 27 2018</i>		
<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				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)	✓			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i (VC)	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				✓
ESPERO, Will	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b>	Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy

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