

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2784

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 02 2018

RE: S.B. No. 481
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 481, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to implement constitutionally required protections for certain agricultural lands by providing grants-in-aid to the counties to identify and map important agricultural lands.

For purposes of a public hearing, your Committee circulated a proposed S.D. 2 (Proposed Draft) of the measure and notified the public that your Committee would be accepting testimony on the Proposed Draft, which deletes the contents of the S.D. 1 of this measure and establishes a definition of "landowner" for the statutory provisions relating to the identification and designation of important agricultural lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the Proposed Draft from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee received comments on the Proposed Draft from the State Land Use Commission; Department of Agriculture; Office of Planning; Planning Department, County of Hawaii; and Department of Planning and Permitting, City and County of Honolulu.

SB481 SD2 SSCR LRB 18-1705.doc



Your Committee finds that there is ambiguity regarding whether tenants on state lands are eligible to receive benefits from designating their fields as important agricultural lands. Your Committee further finds that adding a definition of "landowner" will encourage more farmers and agricultural operations to participate in the important agricultural lands program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the Proposed Draft with the following additional amendments:

- (1) Restoring the existing language of the definition of "important agricultural lands" to mean lands identified pursuant to Part III of Chapter 205, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Amending the definition of "landowner" with regard to tenants, to only include tenants of public lands; and
- (3) Making technical nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 481, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 481, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,




DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>GKA</i> SB481, SD1, Proposed SD7	Committee Referral: WTL/AEN/PSM, WAM	Date: 2/28/18		
<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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	X			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	X			
HARIMOTO, Breene	X			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
TOTAL	11	0	0	0
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