

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 143

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2019

RE: S.B. No. 1544

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 1544 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to improve food security and self-sufficiency in the State by encouraging the development and implementation of a whole farm system approach to agriculture in Hawaii, which includes establishing a farmer apprentice mentoring program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Pacific Agricultural Land Management Systems, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Down to Earth, Hawai'i Farmers Union United, Hawai'i Center for Food Safety, A'a Li'i Farm, Kulahaven Farms LLC, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, and twelve individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

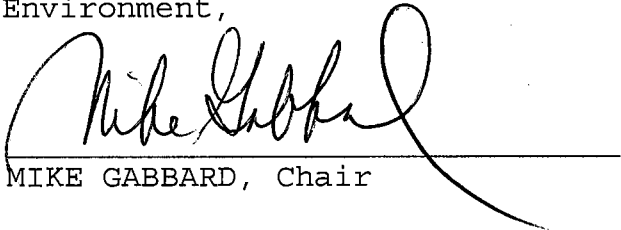
Your Committee finds that there is a need to train current and future local farmers to create a more sustainable State. Your Committee further finds that this measure would establish a farmer apprentice mentoring program to teach farmers about methods to improve soil health through recycling soil nutrients, among other sustainable farming methods and practices. Overall, your



Committee finds that this measure will improve food security and self-sufficiency in the State.

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. 1544 and recommends that it pass Second Reading 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
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 1544	AEN, WAM	02-04-2019		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input 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			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
THIELEN, Laura H.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	5	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