

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1755

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 3 2019

RE: S.C.R. No. 134
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Labor, Culture and the Arts and
Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 134
entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO SUBMIT A REPORT DETERMINING A
LIVING WAGE STANDARD FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS LIVING IN THE
STATE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, in collaboration
with the Department of Agriculture, to submit a report determining
a living wage standard for agricultural workers living in the
State.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Farmers Union, Hawaii Farmers Union United, Lokoea
Farms, Maui Farmers Union United, and fourteen individuals. Your
Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from
Shrimp Improvement Systems, LLC. Your Committees received
comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and
Industrial Relations, Department of Agriculture, and Society for
Human Resources Management Hawaii.



Your Committees find that a "living wage" is defined as a wage sufficient to provide the necessities and comforts essential to an acceptable standard of living. Your Committees further find that agricultural workers employed in the State earn wages less than other states and their wages are below living wage standards. According to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an hourly wage of \$15.73 is considered livable in the State of Hawaii. The shortage of agricultural workers has posed a significant challenge to the Governor's Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, which plans on doubling local food production by 2020 and additionally, in the long term, to locally produce twenty percent of food by 2050 under the 2050 Sustainability Plan. Increasing the wages earned by agricultural workers will incentivize individuals to pursue an occupation in the agricultural workforce. Competitive wages in the agriculture sector will contribute in the retention of skilled individuals. Determining the living wage standard for agricultural workers living in the State will assist with any decision-making on increasing the wages for agricultural workers and attracting a new generation of agricultural workers in the State.

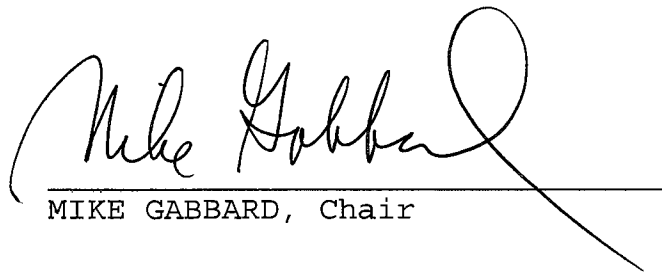
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

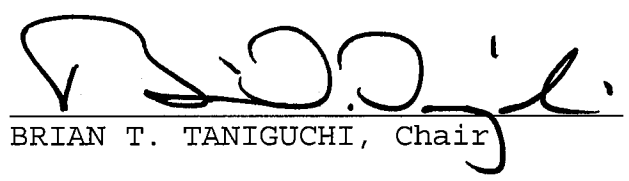
- (1) Including the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism as one of the agencies the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations shall collaborate with in determining a living wage standard for agricultural workers living in the State; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Labor, Culture and the Arts and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 134, as amended herein, and recommend its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 134, S.D. 1.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Labor, Culture
and the Arts and Agriculture
and Environment,


MIKE GABBARD, Chair


BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair

The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
LCA

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SCR 134	LCA/AEN	3-27-19		
<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
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley				✓
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
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

The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SCR 134	Committee Referral: LCA / AEN	Date: 03-27-2019
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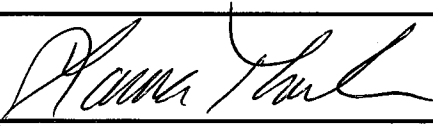
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 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	4			1

Recommendation: Adopted 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

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