

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3437

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAY 12 2020

RE: H.B. No. 1861
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 1861, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COFFEE BERRY BORER,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the Pesticide Subsidy Program to June 30, 2025;
- (2) Extend the Pesticide Subsidy Program Manager position and the position's civil service and collective bargaining laws exemption to June 30, 2026; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Program and Program Manager position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, University of Hawaii System, Mayor of the County of Hawaii, Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Synergistic Hawaii Agriculture Council, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Maui Chamber of Commerce, Kona Coffee Farmers Association, Hawaii Coffee Association, Rancho Aloha Kona Coffee, and nine individuals.



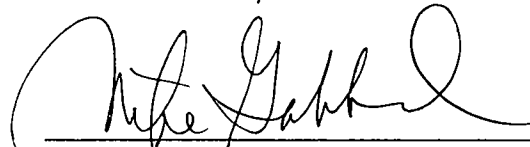
Your Committee finds that coffee is a high value agricultural crop to local economy. According to testimony received by your Committee, a recent economic analysis by the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources estimated that the coffee berry borer caused \$7.68 million in crop losses and \$571,000 in lost state tax revenues in the 2013 fiscal year. This measure, which extends the Pesticide Subsidy Program, along with the pesticide subsidy program manager position necessary to process the applications for these subsidies, should be viewed as a modest investment in one of the State's largest and most important agricultural industries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting, per the recommendation of the Synergistic Hawaii Agriculture Council, an appropriation amount of \$200,000, including an appropriation of \$25,000 for the salary and fringe benefits of the pesticide subsidy program manager position; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2020.

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 H.B. No. 1861, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1861, H.D. 1, 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
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1861, HD 1	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: 03/11/2020		
<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			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
THIELEN, Laura H.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				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