

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

477

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2019

RE: S.B. No. 895

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.B. No. 895 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to extend the
offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include
roasted coffee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Coffee Association;
Greenwell Farms, Inc.; Rusty's Hawaiian, LLC; Ka'u Mountain Farm;
MauiGrown Coffee, Inc.; Maui Coffee Association; Kona Coffee
Farmers Association; O'ahu County Committee on Legislative
Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual.

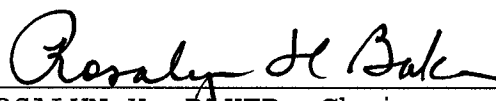
Your Committee finds that legitimate coffee producers who
offer high quality products grown in Hawaii are at a competitive
disadvantage when counterfeited, foreign-grown coffee is blatantly
mislabeled as Hawaii-grown and offered at a lower price. This
provides counterfeiters an imbalanced windfall, artificially
creates downward price pressure for local growers, and shrinks
their margins. Under existing law, counterfeiters can ship
roasted coffee without the ability of the Department of
Agriculture to challenge the authenticity of origin. However, new
technologies and methodologies are now available to definitively
prove where coffee is grown, both in roasted and green forms.



This measure closes an important loophole to help protect the integrity of the Hawaii coffee industry by extending the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to roasted coffee.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 895 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce, Consumer
Protection, and Health,

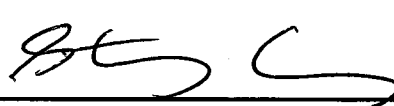


ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
CPH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 895	CPH, JDC	2/11/19		
<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 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
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley (VC)	✓			
KEOHOKALOPE, Jarrett	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	6			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