

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 627

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 04 2021

RE: S.B. No. 348  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 348, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BOTTLED WATER,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement that noncarbonated bottled water be transported, stored, processed, or bottled through lines or equipment through which only water is passed; and
- (2) Update section 328D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to reflect current rules of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding product quality standards for bottled water.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Maui Brewing Co., Ball Corporation, Hawaii Food Industry Association, Ko Olina Resort Operators Association, Sierra Club's National Marine Team, and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that existing state law expressly prohibits carbonated soft drink, juice, and beer manufacturers in Hawaii from using the same equipment to can noncarbonated drinking



water. Your Committee further finds that this existing state law is based on an outdated and superseded FDA rule. This measure repeals this existing restriction that unfairly and unnecessarily limits local beverage companies that manufacture other products from providing noncarbonated water in recyclable aluminum cans to consumers as an alternative to single-use plastic water bottles. According to testimony received by your Committee, this measure will also allow local businesses to expand into new products and encourage economic growth.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 348, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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

  
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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



