

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 , 2022

RE: H.B. No. 1668
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 1668 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SOIL CLASSIFICATIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to conduct a study of the suitability of the Land Study Bureau soil overall (master) productivity rating system and other soil classification systems in the regulation of agricultural lands in the State and make recommendations for the use of soil classification systems for agricultural land use regulation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, University of Hawai'i System, Hawaii State Energy Office, and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the last statewide soil mapping, classification, and characterization study was completed fifty years ago when plantation sugar cane and pineapple production dominated Hawaii agriculture. To help optimize public and private investments in agriculture and meet Hawaii's food and agricultural sustainability goals, accurate soil data is needed.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1668, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1668, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture.

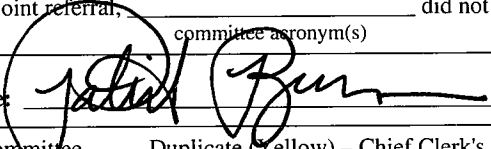
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water & Land,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1668	Committee Referral: WAL, AGR, FIN	Date: 2/1/22		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
WAL Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	/			
2. BRANCO, Patrick Pihana (VC)	/			
3. GANADEN, Sonny	/			
4. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand	/			
5. KONG, Sam Satoru				/
6. MORIKAWA, Dee	/			
7. OHNO, Takashi	/			
8. McDERMOTT, Bob				/
TOTAL (8)	6			2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				