

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 , 2022

RE: H.B. No. 1717
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 Higher Education & Technology, to which was referred H.B. No. 1717 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to work in collaboration with a University of Hawai'i community college, to establish the foreign agriculture small equipment pilot program to:

- (1) Identify and purchase foreign agricultural technology, including but not limited to small equipment tractors and retrofit engines that will benefit the State's farmers and ranchers and comply with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's emission standards;
- (2) Establish contact with manufacturers of small equipment in Japan and other countries;
- (3) Work with the United States Environmental Protection Agency to identify Environmental Protection Agency standards and compliance requirements for small foreign agricultural equipment;



- (4) Collaborate with agricultural professionals from foreign countries on management practices;
- (5) Bring harvesting, weed management, and field preparation machinery into the State for evaluation;
- (6) Conduct on-farm trials to evaluate the efficacy and applicability to multiple growing systems, such as wetland conventional, organic, and forage crops, statewide; and
- (7) Conduct education and training workshops statewide to update agriculture producers on available technology.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ulupono Initiative; Ponoholo Ranch Limited; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that diversified agriculture in Hawaii could benefit from a small equipment pilot program that would be appropriate for the smaller sizes and unique terrain characteristics of many farms in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee requests that if your Committee on Finance chooses to hear this measure, that the University of Hawai'i System provide a recommended appropriation amount for your Committee on Finance to consider.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1717, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1717, H.D. 1.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Higher Education &
Technology,



GREG TARAYAMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Higher Education & Technology

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1717	Committee Referral: AGR, HET, FIN	Date: 2-16-2022		
<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)				
HET Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TAKAYAMA, Gregg (C)	✓			
2. CLARK, Linda (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au	✓			
4. GANADEN, Sonny	✓			
5. GATES, Cedric Asuega	✓			
6. HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
7. KAPELA, Jeanne	✓			
8. OHNO, Takashi	✓			
9. QUINLAN, Sean	✓			
10. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
11. YAMANE, Ryan I.				✓
12. OKIMOTO, Val	✓			
TOTAL (12)	11	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align:center; font-size:small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>Jada A. Clark</i></u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				