

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 176 -22

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 , 2022

RE: H.B. No. 2493
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 Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 2493 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Farmland and Forest Soil Health Carbon Smart Incentive Program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentives contracts that provide for compensation for eligible practices by program participants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; The Nature Conservancy - Hawai'i and Palmyra; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Life of the Land; Kauai Women's Caucus; 350Hawaii.org; Our Revolution Hawaii; Hawai'i Gas; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Energy & Climate Action Committee of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Dibshawaii LLC; Ohana Hui Ventures, Inc; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Art Farm; Eco4Life; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of Agriculture.

2022-1185 HB2493 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that the State needs to reduce its contribution to climate change, increase local food production, improve soil health, and secure resilient water sources. Incentivizing nature-based actions that are soil health and carbon positive provide rich, diverse co-benefits to the State, such as restoring, maintaining, and improving landscape soil health and water security through payment for service programs. This measure would increase the State's food and water security, while also allowing small farmers, ranchers, foresters, and landowners to be compensated for taking measures to help Hawaii reach its climate readiness goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2100, 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 Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2493, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2493, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy &
Environmental Protection,



NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-first Legislature

HSCR 176-22

Record of Votes of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2493	Committee Referral: EEP, CPC, FIN	Date: 2/8/22		
<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)				
EEP Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)	/			
2. MARTEN, Lisa (VC)	/			
3. HASHEM, Mark J.	/			
4. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z.	/			
5. PERRUSO, Amy A.	/			
6. TODD, Chris	/			
7. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	/			
8. MATSUMOTO, Lauren	/			
TOTAL (8)	8			
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>Lisa Marten</i></u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				