Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 6 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2288

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2022 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2288 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMPOSTING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture to provide reimbursements to farmers, ranchers, and landscapers when purchasing compost; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Pueo Orchards; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawaii Medicinal, LLC; Sunshine Farms, LLC; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Actions; Growing Together Edible Landscaping; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that food waste contributes significantly to landfills. Recycling food waste into compost can provide significant environmental benefits, such as improving soil health, increasing drought resistance, and reducing the need for supplemental water, fertilizers, and pesticides. This measure

supports the use of compost by establishing a compost reimbursement program to assist farmers, ranchers, and landscapers. Your Committee further finds, however, that it is important for this measure to specify that only locally-produced compost will be eligible for reimbursement.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2288 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

MIKE GABBARD, Chair

The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Agriculture and Environment AEN

Bill / Resolutio	n No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:		
5B 229	2288 AEN WAM			1	02/04/22		
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.							
If so, then the previous decision was to:							
The Recommendation is:							
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313							
	Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused	
GABBARD, Mike (C)							
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)							
ACASIO, Laura							
RHOADS, Kar	1						
FEVELLA, Kui	rt						
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	TOTAL		14				
Recommendation:							
Adopted Not Adopted							
Chair's or Designee's Signature:							
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Cor							
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes