

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2955

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. 2955 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) Require the Department of Agriculture to establish a three-year compost reimbursement pilot program to provide reimbursements to farmers and ranchers when purchasing compost;
- (2) Establish a temporary compost reimbursement pilot program manager position;
- (3) Require a report to the legislature; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for a compost reimbursement pilot program.

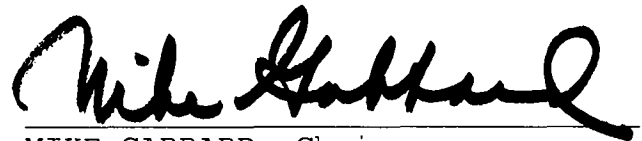
Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Birds With Arms Farms; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Adaptations, Inc.; and twenty-four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.



Your Committee finds that food waste constitutes a significant source of materials sent to landfills and that recycling food waste by converting it to compost has many environmental benefits. Notably, compost improves soil health, increases drought resistance, and reduces the need for supplemental water, fertilizers, and pesticides. Accordingly, this measure supports the State's efforts to improve agricultural productivity and environmental sustainability.

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. 2955 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,

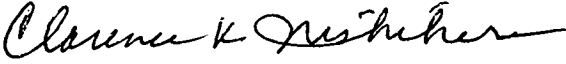


MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 2055</i>	Committee Referral: <i>AEN, WAM</i>	Date: <i>02/02/22</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
RHOADS, Karl	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	<i>5</i>			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes