STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2886

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 4 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2969 S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2969, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AN AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY SPECIAL FUND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to provide relief to farmers and ranchers in the State.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Establishes an agricultural emergency special fund; and
- (2) Appropriates moneys into and out of the agricultural emergency special fund.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Ulupono Initiative, Food+ Policy, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and three individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that climate change and economic difficulties impose additional hardships on struggling farm and ranch operations throughout the State. Your Committee further

finds that the Department of Agriculture's emergency loan program has made thirty-one emergency loans, totaling \$2,300,000, over the last three years.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that moneys from the repayment of loans funded by the agricultural emergency special fund shall be paid back into the special fund;
- (2) Changing the amount of general fund moneys being deposited into the agricultural emergency special fund from \$2,500,000 to an unspecified sum;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (4) Making a technical nonsubstantive amendment for purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2969, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2969, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,



The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date: / /		
SB 2969, SD1	AEN, WAM			2/23/22		
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 (W	'R)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)		×				
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)		X				
INOUYE, Lorraine R.		X				
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		X				
KIDANI, Michelle N.		X				
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.		X				
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.		X				
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.		X				
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.		X				
WAKAI, Glenn		Y				
FEVELLA, Kurt		X				
						·
TOTAL		11				
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 Copy						

*Only one measure per Record of Votes