

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2982

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. 2982 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A FOOD HUB PILOT PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to establish a five-year food hub pilot program to increase access to local food;
- (2) Allow the awarding of grants to qualified applicants wishing to establish or expand a food hub;
- (3) Require a report to the legislature; and
- (4) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Adaptations, Inc.; A'a Li'i Farm; Pono Hawai'i Initiative; Sustainable Kohala; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Grow Some Good; Birds With Arms Farms; Hawaii Foodbank; Ho'ola Farms; We Are One, Inc.; Our Revolution Hawaii; Hawai'i 'Ulu Producers Cooperative; Aloha Harvest; and sixty-five individuals.



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

Your Committee finds that the State's food security may be strengthened by growing more local food. Food hubs play a vital role in ensuring that food grown locally is accessible to consumers by providing greater access to institutional and retail markets throughout the State. This measure supports the establishment and expansion of food hubs to increase access to locally-produced food.

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. 2982 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 2982</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: <i>Clarence K Nishihara</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes