

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3104

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 04 2022**

RE: S.B. No. 3197  
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. 3197, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to invest in the future of Hawaii's farming industry by increasing the number of new farmers and providing more support for aspiring farmers in the State.

More specifically, the measure:

- (1) Establishes a beginning farmer training program, to be administered by the Department of Agriculture in conjunction with qualified farmer training providers;
- (2) Requires the Department of Agriculture, among other things, to:
  - (A) Collaborate with and support qualified farmer training providers;
  - (B) Implement strategies to increase the number of new farmers in the State;



- (C) Distribute any available funding to as many training programs as is practicable to achieve the purpose of the program; and
  - (D) Submit annual reports to the Legislature containing specified information, including an evaluation of program results; and
- (2) Appropriates moneys to establish and implement the program.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from Hawaii Farmers Union United, Hawaii Food+ Policy, and nine individuals.

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

Your Committee finds that the program created by this measure will help to achieve a more robust agricultural industry by providing needed training to new and aspiring farmers across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing, in place of the beginning farmer training program, a farmer apprentice mentoring program having substantially similar characteristics, and amending the measure's preamble to reflect the purpose of the farmer apprentice mentoring program;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Agriculture, among other things, to collaborate with, and provide funding and information to, qualified farmer mentorship providers to fund apprenticeships for bona fide Hawaii farmers;
- (3) Specifying that a farmer apprentice shall be eligible to receive training for a maximum of one year;
- (4) Setting limits on: the maximum dollar amount of apprenticeship stipends that a farmer mentorship provider may receive per year; the maximum percentage of

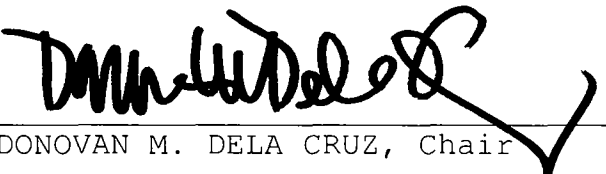


total farmer apprentice wages that may be funded by the program in a given year; and the maximum aggregated dollar amount that a farmer mentorship provider may receive during any five-year period for services procured by the Department of Agriculture;

- (5) Changing all dollar amounts, and the appropriation amount, to unspecified amounts to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (6) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, 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. 3197, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3197, S.D. 2.

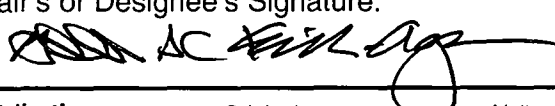
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 3197, SD1	AEN, WAM	2/23/22		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
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	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>			
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes