

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

587

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16

, 2023

RE: H.B. No. 1270  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2023  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, to which was referred H.B. No. 1270 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEMP,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to convene a Hawaii Hemp Industry Task Force in the Department of Agriculture to gather data and information to aid in the understanding of hemp industry needs and recommend strategies and actions to the Legislature to support a vibrant hemp industry, agriculture, and rural economic development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Maui Farmers Union United, Hauula Community Association, Hawai'i Hemp Farmers Association, Aina Ho'okupa O Kilauea, Hawai'i Sustainable Farms, and nineteen individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that hemp continues to provide an opportunity for Hawaii farmers to diversify and expand agriculture production into new areas. However, amid changing federal and state regulations and other challenges of developing Hawaii's nascent hemp industry, your Committee further finds that a task

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force is needed to better recognize and fully understand the needs of the hemp industry.

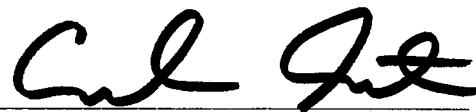
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Agriculture to provide any necessary administrative support, including preparation of the report to the Legislature, to the Hawaii Hemp Industry Task Force;
- (2) Changing the effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Agriculture recommended an appropriation of \$85,000 for the personnel needed to carry out the administrative support for the Hawaii Hemp Industry Task Force.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1270, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1270, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Agriculture & Food  
Systems,



CEDRIC ASUEGA GATES, Chair



**Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> HB1270	<b>Committee Referral:</b> AGR, FIN	<b>Date:</b> 2/13/2023		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
<b>AGR Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1. GATES, Cedric Asuega (C)	✓			
2. KAHALOA, Kirstin (VC)	✓			
3. COCHRAN, Elle	✓			
4. LOWEN, Nicole E.	✓			
5. PERRUSO, Amy A.	✓			
6. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
7. WARD, Gene	✓			
<b>TOTAL (7)</b>	<b>7</b>			
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				