

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3248

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 22 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2444
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and Human Services and Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 2444, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the Department of Health to conduct criminal history record checks of applicants for permits to operate as a hemp processor.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, Kauai Hemp Company, and one individual.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that Act 263, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023 (Act 263), provided consenting hemp processor applicants with two methods to satisfy the criminal background check requirement: consent to and pass fingerprint and criminal background check conducted by the Department of Health; or submit to the Department a valid license to grow hemp issued by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). However, as the Department of



Health does not have the authority to conduct criminal history checks on consenting hemp processor applicants, only applicants who have satisfactorily passed a criminal background check to obtain a USDA license to grow hemp can apply to be a permitted hemp processor in the State. Therefore, this measure will effectuate the legislative intent of Act 263, allowing the Department of Health to issue hemp processor permits to those who do not have a USDA license to grow hemp.

Your Committees have amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2444, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2444, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and Human
Services and Agriculture and
Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 2444 HD1	HHS / AEN, JDC	03/19/24

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	4			1

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

The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 2444, HDI	HAS/AEN, JDC	3/15/24		
<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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)				✓
DECOITE, Lynn	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
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	

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