

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2024

FEB 29

RE: H.B. No. 2522

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 2522 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the definition of "beer" to include any alcoholic beverage containing no less than 0.5 percent alcohol by volume obtained by fermentation of any infusion or decoction of malt or any substitute, including alcohol seltzer beverages, but excluding sake, cooler beverages, or other distilled products; and
- (2) Permit brewpubs to sell beer manufactured by the brewpub, or beer manufactured on their premises, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Craft Ohana; Lanikai Brewing Company LLC DBA Lanikai Spirits; Hana Koa Brewing Co.; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing statutory definition of "beer" follows the traditional basic ingredients used in historical beer manufacturing. However, this definition does not



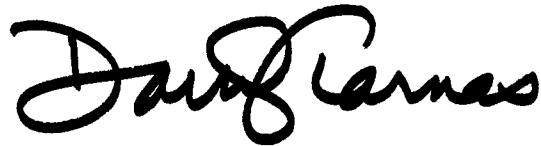
adequately reflect the expansion of the craft beer manufacturing sector and is not in alignment with the federal definition. This measure will alleviate these inconsistencies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2522, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2522, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



