

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1269

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 17 , 2023

RE: S.B. No. 818
S.D. 1
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 S.B. No. 818, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AQUACULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to transfer the Aquaculture Development Program from the Department of Agriculture to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation and Ohana Hui Ventures, Inc. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association; Molokai Sea Farms; EcoponicX, Inc.; Aquaculture Planning & Advocacy LLC; Jamestown Point Whitney Ventures LLC; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association.

Your Committee finds that transferring the Aquaculture Development Program from the Department of Agriculture to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC), which is administratively attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), would benefit the State because

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ADC's objectives support DBEDT's mission, which is to support an economy that embraces innovation and is globally competitive, dynamic, and productive, providing opportunities for all Hawaii's citizens.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 818, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 818, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

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



CEDRIC ASUEGA GATES, Chair



