

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair  
Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa, Vice Chair

Rep. Elle Cochran      Rep. Justin H. Woodson  
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen    Rep. Gene Ward  
Rep. Amy A. Perruso

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE:      Wednesday, March 13, 2024  
TIME:      8:30 AM  
PLACE:     VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
              Conference Room 325  
              State Capitol  
              415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

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A G E N D A

[SB 3365, SD2](#)  
[\(SSCR2817\)](#)  
[Status](#)

RELATING TO PLANT CARE COMPONENTS.  
Requires the Department of Agriculture to certify treatments performed on wood chips, compost, and filter socks. Places certain restrictions on the distribution or transportation of plant care components without prior treatment certification from the Department. (SD2)

AGR, CPC, FIN

[SB 3237, SD2](#)  
[\(SSCR3013\)](#)  
[Status](#)

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.  
Facilitates the control and eradication of invasive species and pests. Establishes a plant nursery licensing program. Requires the Department of Agriculture to designate certain species as pests for control or eradication. Imposes certain limits on imports and transportation. Updates the method by which the Department's noxious weed list is updated. Takes effect 4/14/2112. (SD2)

AGR, CPC, FIN



<a href="#">SB 2500, SD2</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2776)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS.</p> <p>Establishes a food and product innovation network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Makes an appropriation for food and product innovation facilities on the islands of Molokai, Oahu, and Hawaii. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)</p>	<p>AGR, CPC, FIN</p>
<a href="#">SB 572, SD2</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2809)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.</p> <p>Authorizes the Department of Agriculture to declare a biosecurity emergency in certain circumstances and with the approval of the Governor. Outlines the terms of a declared biosecurity emergency. Requires the Department to implement certain requirements for agricultural commodity importers. Authorizes the Department to subpoena necessary documentation from agricultural commodity importers relating to a known or suspected infestation of pests. Authorizes the Department to quarantine any farm, facility, or business that is known to be infested with pests. (SD2)</p>	<p>AGR, JHA, FIN</p>
<a href="#">SB 3361</a> <a href="#">(SSCR3011)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO RENEWABLE FUEL.</p> <p>Includes oilseed cover crops into the Cover Crop Reimbursement Pilot Program established by Act 312, SLH 2022.</p>	<p>AGR, FIN</p>
<a href="#">SB 3329, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2770)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO LITTLE FIRE ANTS.</p> <p>Requires the disclosure of any little fire ant infestation as part of any sale of residential real property. (SD1)</p>	<p>AGR, CPC</p>
<a href="#">SB 3025</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2871)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO HEMP.</p> <p>Repeals the requirement for additional rules by the Department of Agriculture to address nuisance issues, including smell, noise, and excessive lighting arising out of the activities of hemp growers. Clarifies that the Department of Agriculture will not require testing or sampling of hemp that duplicates testing and sampling required by the United States Department of Agriculture, but retain the authority to enforce other applicable state laws, such as Hawaii Pesticides Law.</p>	<p>AGR, JHA</p>
<a href="#">SB 2401, SD2</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2907)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO FERAL CHICKENS.</p> <p>Appropriates moneys to each county as a grant-in-aid for the implementation of feral chicken control programs. Appropriates moneys to the Department of Health for a feeding of feral animals education campaign. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)</p>	<p>AGR, FIN</p>
<a href="#">SB 2413, SD2</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2785)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	<p>RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.</p> <p>Requires the Board of Agriculture to submit a report on the percentage of agricultural lands that are suitable for farming and actively farmed and certain dollar amounts relating to lease transfers between lessees. (SD2)</p>	<p>AGR, FIN</p>



<a href="#">SB 2419, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2819)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY. Appropriates moneys for the biosecurity program of the Department of Agriculture to develop and implement projects for clean plant material, agricultural treatments, diagnostics, and pest management. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)	AGR, FIN
<a href="#">SB 2079</a> <a href="#">(SSCR3009)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS. Allows the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form to be distributed, completed, and transmitted electronically.	AGR, FIN
<a href="#">SB 2329, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR2811)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	RELATING TO AQUACULTURE. Appropriates moneys for mullet production for fishponds and stock enhancement, including for new positions, equipment, maintenance, and operating costs. Declares that the appropriations exceed the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)	AGR, FIN
<a href="#">SB 1590, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR3056)</a> <a href="#">Status</a>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Requires the Department of Agriculture to assess the steps necessary for the State to supplement federal authority to perform meat inspections within the State. Requires the Department of Agriculture to assess the steps necessary to transfer full authority over meat inspections from federal authority to the State. Appropriates funds for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) inspector positions within the Department of Agriculture to perform meat inspections. Takes effect 7/1/2050. (SD1)	AGR, FIN

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov).



The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you require other auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearing process (i.e. interpretive services (oral or written) or ASL interpreter) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at least 24 hours prior to the hearing so that arrangements can be made.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

**FOR AMENDED NOTICES:** Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-8460

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Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates  
Chair

