

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 13 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1450
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 1450, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL CLIMATE
RESILIENCY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year Climate-Resilient Food Systems Grant Pilot Program (Pilot Program) to provide grants to agricultural producers in the State for the acquisition of special-purpose equipment, technology, and ancillary costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that, to address the anticipated impacts of climate change, many local farmers and ranchers are seeking to adopt new technologies and invest in special-purpose equipment to enhance productivity, sustain their operations, and maintain economic viability. Your Committee recognizes that the costs to



implement innovative climate-smart practices and infrastructure improvements can be significant, especially for small- and mid-sized farms. This measure will help empower farmers and ranchers to invest in tools and infrastructure that can directly improve their ability to respond to climate-related challenges, thereby mitigating threats to crop yields and farm viability and ensuring the stability of the State's local food production. According to oral testimony from the Department of Agriculture during the public hearing on this measure, the grants to be awarded through the Pilot Program would replace some of the recently rescinded federal grant funding that supports the implementation of climate-smart practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that this measure contains an unspecified appropriation amount. Should your Committee on Ways and Means choose to deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider inserting an appropriation amount of \$3,000,000 to establish and administer the three-year Climate-Resilient Food Systems Grant Pilot Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1450, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1450, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture and
Environment,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Gabbard", written over a horizontal line.

MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1450 HD2	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: 3/10/2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
DECOITE, Lynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
RHOADS, Karl				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AWA, Brenton			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
TOTAL	3		1	1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes