

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1762

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 19, 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1185
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, to which was referred S.B. No. 1185, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group within the Department of Agriculture to review and make recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Agriculture Research Center; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; East Oahu County Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural sector is hindered by outdated laws that do not reflect current farming practices or the State's evolving agricultural goals. Many of these regulations were created decades ago and may now be limiting progress, efficiency, and the expansion of local food production. By modernizing regulatory frameworks and removing unnecessary

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barriers, this measure promotes a more adaptable, productive, and sustainable agricultural economy for Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the responsibilities of the working group, including specifying an initial focus of its review of laws that directly impact agricultural viability and land use and authorizing the working group to recommend additional laws for future review in subsequent legislative sessions;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$100,000 for the working group.

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. 1185, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1185, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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


KIRSTIN KAHALOA, Chair



HSCR 1362

Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems

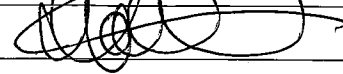
Bill/Resolution No.: SB 1185, SDI	Committee Referral: AGR, FIN	Date: 3/14/25
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The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold
 Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

AGR Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. KAHALOA, Kirstin (C)	X			
2. KUSCH, Matthias (VC)	X			
3. LOWEN, Nicole E.	X			
4. PERRUSO, Amy A.	X			
5. QUINLAN, Sean				X
6. WARD, Gene				X
TOTAL (6)	4			2

The recommendation is: Adopted Not Adopted
 If joint referral _____ did not support recommendation.
 _____ committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 

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