STAND. COM. REP. NO. 467

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 3 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1248

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 S.B. No. 1248 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CRANSTON DUKE PIA ACT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish that, in certain circumstances, an individual rightfully on agricultural land has the right to stand their ground and exercise deadly force in self-defense.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Kapāpala Ranch; Hawaiʻi Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and eleven individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crime is a growing concern across the State, with local farmers and ranchers frequently facing trespassing, theft, vandalism, and violence. Your Committee recognizes stand your ground laws, which eliminate the duty to retreat before using force in self-defense in certain spaces, have been enacted in twenty-six states, and believes that residents should be allowed to defend themselves and their livelihoods. This measure safeguards individuals in the agricultural community and their property by amending the State's self-defense laws to deprioritize the duty to retreat in certain



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circumstances, thereby allowing individuals with a legal right to stand their ground on agricultural land and exercise deadly force in justifiable contexts.

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 S.B. No. 1248 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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

MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Agriculture and Environment AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:	
SB 1248	AEN, JDC 2110125				
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)		$\boldsymbol{\times}$			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)		\times			
DECOITE, Lynn		$\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}$			
RHOADS, Karl			\mathbf{X}		
AWA, Brenton		\times			
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TOTAL		4	١	Ó	0
Recommendation:					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

*Only one measure per Record of Votes