

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 05 2025

RE: S.B. No. 765  
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 S.B. No. 765 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BEEKEEPING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the registration process for beekeepers with the Department of Agriculture;
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to provide guidance and support to registered beekeepers to help beekeepers adhere to certain industry standards and best management practices; and
- (3) Establish a limitation on liability for any registered beekeeper who follows industry standards and best practices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Island Harvest, Inc.; and three individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.



Your Committee finds that beekeeping is not only an ecological necessity but an economic driver in the State. This measure provides several critical benefits to Hawaii's agricultural and ecological systems, including protecting pollinators, addressing pest and disease management, supporting agricultural productivity, and encouraging responsible beekeeping. Your Committee notes the concerns raised by the Office of Information Practices that this measure, in its current form, deletes statutory language that requires the Department of Agriculture to make publicly available registered beekeepers' names and business addresses. However, this information is required to be disclosed under the Uniform Information Practices Act.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restoring existing statutory language that requires public disclosure of registered beekeepers' names and business addresses;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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. 765, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 765, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce and Consumer Protection.

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

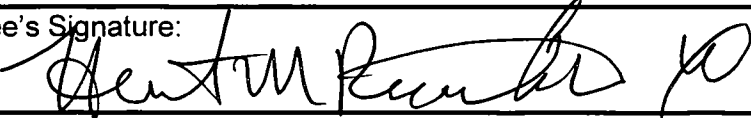


MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 765	AEN, WAM/CPN	1/27/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl		X		
AWA, Brenton	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	1		
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
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