STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1613

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 2 2025

RE: S.C.R. No. 150 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 Transportation and Culture and the Arts, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 150 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY PROGRAMS SUBSIDIZING THE TRANSPORT OF WATERBORNE CARGO,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to convene a working group to develop and recommend federal, state, and county programs subsidizing the transport of waterborne cargo.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation, Young Brothers Hawaii, and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

Your Committee finds that a Water Carrier Working Group, established by the Legislature in 2020, concluded that communities are largely reliant on the import of goods, with more than eighty percent of goods reaching customers having been imported. Your Committee further finds that unlike other communities in the continental United States that have alternative means of transporting goods by freight and rail, the geography of the State necessitates the employment of water carriers to transport goods. The Water Carrier Working Group report recommended that the



funding required to subsidize general cargo transport be sourced from existing or newly created federal, state, and county government programs. Therefore, this measure requests the Department of Transportation to convene a working group to develop and recommend federal, state, and county subsidies for the transport of waterborne cargo which will help make the State more food secure and resilient, and promote local food production and other forms of local manufacturing, by making interisland shipping more cost effective.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 150, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 150, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

CHRIS LEE, Chair

The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts TCA

Bill / Resolution No.:* SCR 150	Committee	Referral:	Da	te: 4-1-76	025
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
LEE, Chris (C)					
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)		<u> </u>			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.					
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		<u>/</u>			
DECORTE, Samantha					
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TOTAL		-			
Recommendation: Adopted 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