

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 579-24

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 , 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2613
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 2613, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the application of the criminal offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include roasted coffee;
- (2) Enhance the penalties for the criminal offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee through the imposition of a mandatory fine for each offense; and
- (3) Establish and appropriate funds for a position within the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of labeling and packaging enforcement and inspection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council; Hawaii Coffee Association; Rancho Aloha Coffee Farm; Kanalani Ohana Farm; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Kona Coffee Farmers Association; Hawai'i Farmers Union

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United; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Coffee Company.

Your Committee finds that fraudulent representations as to a coffee's geographic origin diminish the value of that geographic identifier by harming its reputation. Your Committee further finds that the existing criminal offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee only applies to green coffee, cherry coffee, or parchment coffee. This measure would expand that offense to roasted coffee and further protect the geographic identifier of Hawaii-grown coffee.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2613, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce,



MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-second Legislature

HR 577-24

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2613 HDI	Committee Referral: AGR, CPC, FIN	Date: 02-14-24		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	/			
2. SAYAMA, Jackson D. (VC)	/			
3. AMATO, Terez	/			
4. BELATTI, Della Au	/			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.				/
6. HUSSEY-BURDICK, Natalia				/
7. GATES, Cedric Asuega				/
8. LOWEN, Nicole E.				/
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	/			
10. TAM, Adrian K.				/
11. PIERICK, Elijah			/	
TOTAL (11)	5		1	5
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>JL E</i></u>				
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