

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 2 , 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2159 S.D. 2 H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Water & Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 2159, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture, in coordination with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, to prepare and periodically update the State Agriculture Functional Plan to include other agricultural economic updates, including aquaculture, that expand the State's priority on food by including freshwater and saltwater aquatic organisms as a viable food source; and
- (2) Require the Governor to submit the updated plan to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Maui Phoenix Farms LLC dba Maui Trout Company; Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and one



individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committees find that since the last update to the State's Agricultural Functional Plan in 1991, Hawaii's agriculture industry has undergone immense diversification and expanded beyond a predominantly plantation-based agricultural sector. An emerging segment within Hawaii's agriculture industry is aquaculture, which involves the use of aquatic systems to harvest fish and other animal products. This measure ensures that updates to the State's Agricultural Functional Plan will provide guidance on the development of the aquaculture industry and the ways in which it can support food and nutrition security within the State.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Agriculture, in coordination with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, to produce a report on freshwater and saltwater aquatic organisms prior to updating the State Agriculture Functional Plan and applying the proposed elements of the updated State Agriculture Functional Plan to the report instead;
- (2) Adding as an element of the report research and monitoring, performed in collaboration with Native Hawaiian organizations of the impacts that expanding aquacultural markets may have on Hawaii's traditional and customary fishing practices and the State's ocean ecosystems;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Agriculture, rather than the Governor, to submit the first report, rather than the updated State Agriculture Functional Plan, to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Water & Land that are



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attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2159, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2159, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Water & Land,

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CEDRIC ASUEGA GATES, Chair



State of Hawaii

House of Representatives The Thirty-second Legislature **HSck** 1313-24

Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2\59 SD2	Committee AGR	$\frac{\text{Date:}}{\text{GR/WAL, FIN}} = \frac{\text{Date:}}{03/20/2024}$						
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. GATES, Cedric Asuega	a (C)	\checkmark						
2. KAHALOA, Kirstin (V	/C)				<u>175-22-2</u> -2-2-2			
2 COCHDAN EV				r				
3. COCHRAN, Elle								
4. LOWEN, Nicole E.								
				2012 (C. 1997)				
5. PERRUSO, Amy A.								
6. WOODSON, Justin H.		\checkmark						
7. WARD, Gene		<u> </u>						
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TOTAL (7)	5			2			
The recommendation is: Adopted I Not Adopted If joint referral,								
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:								
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) / Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO								

State of Hawaii

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Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: VB2159 VD2	Committee AGR	e Referral: /WAL, FI	Date	03/20/	24			
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)								
WAL Memb	oers	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused			
1. ICHIYAMA, Linda (C)		\checkmark						
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC))							
3. CHUN, Cory M.				12				
4. GANADEN, Sonny								
5. HASHEM, Mark J.								
			. Than the Sta					
6. MIZUNO, May Besario								
7. MORIKAWA, Dee								
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg								
		V Stantes						
9. SOUZA, Kanani		and the search						
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TOTAL (9)		7			2			
he recommendation is: Adopted I Not Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.								
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:								
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