

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

612

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13, 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1337
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
H.B. No. 1337, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENDEMIC PLANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of
Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
Resilience (CTAHR) to establish an Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot
Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of
Hawai'i at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
Resilience; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Big Island Invasive Species
Committee; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that CTAHR currently has a small seed
production program focused exclusively on agriculturally important
crop varieties. Your Committee further finds that CTAHR has the
land and expertise to produce the endemic plant seeds through the
Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program as required by this measure.
Your Committee believes that the Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot
Program is an important initiative that will preserve and promote
the planting of plant species that are endemic to the State.

2025-1849 HB1337 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee notes that CTAHR estimates the cost to start the Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program will be approximately \$6,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1337, 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 Higher Education,



ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



