

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

187

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 06 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1427
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 Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1427
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AVIAN INFLUENZA,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the
Department of Health and Department of Agriculture to prevent,
monitor, and respond to avian influenza in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural
Resources; Department of Agriculture; State Health Planning and
Development Agency; Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association; Hawai'i
Farmers Union United; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i
Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and one individual.
Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure
from five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this
measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that H5 avian influenza viruses, also
referred to bird flu, can cause severe illness with a high
mortality rate among certain bird populations, such as poultry.
The virus can also pass to other species, including dairy cows and
humans. Your Committee further finds that bird flu was detected
in a domestic flock of birds on Oahu in November 2024 and has

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since been detected in wastewater testing in Hilo and on Kauai. As of January 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported sixty-seven confirmed human cases of bird flu, with one case resulting in the patient's death. Although the risk of human-to-human infection is currently low, your Committee believes that close monitoring of the situation to identify any changes in the virus that may increase transmissibility or infection severity is warranted to protect Hawaii's residents.

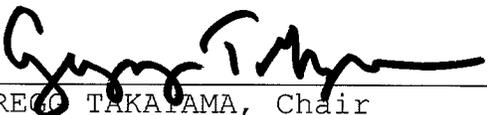
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation of between \$3,300,000 and \$4,700,000, depending on the availability of federal funds, for the Department of Health and an appropriation of \$293,000 for the Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1427, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1427, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,

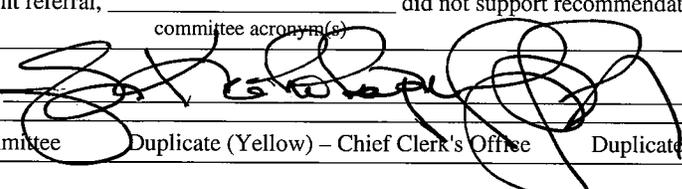


GREG TAKAFAMA, Chair



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Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1427	Committee Referral: HLT, AGR, FIN	Date: Feb 5, 2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" 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)				
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TAKAYAMA, Gregg (C)	X			
2. KEOHOKAPU-LEE LOY, Sue L. (VC)	X			
3. AMATO, Terez	X			
4. CHUN, Cory M.	X			
5. MARTEN, Lisa	X			
6. OLDS, Ikaika	X			
7. TAKENOUCI, Jenna	X			
8. ALCOS III, David	X			
9. GARCIA, Diamond			X	
TOTAL (9)	8		1	
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				