

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

641

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 48
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 Agriculture & Food Systems, to which was referred H.B. No. 48 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COFFEE LABELING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the labeling and advertising requirements for coffee that is grown and processed in the State; and
- (2) Make necessary distinctions between the definitions of "geographic origin" and "regional origin".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii-grown and Hawaii-processed coffee is a cornerstone of the State's agricultural economy. However, misleading labeling practices have allowed coffee blends containing only a small percentage of locally grown and processed beans to be marketed in ways that confuse consumers and devalue authentic Hawaii coffee. By enhancing consumer protection and preserving the integrity of Hawaii's premium coffee brands, this measure safeguards local farmers' livelihoods, reinforces consumer



trust, and supports the long-term sustainability of the State's coffee industry.

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 adding an appropriation of \$65,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Measurement Standards Inspector V position to support and restore enforcement capability for all labeling regulations for Hawaii products.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 48, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 48, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture & Food
Systems,


KIRSTIN KAHALOA, Chair



1tscr 641

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 48		Committee Referral: AGR, CPC		Date:
<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)				
AGR Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. KAHALOA, Kirstin (C)	X			
2. KUSCH, Matthias (VC)	X			
3. LOWEN, Nicole E.	X			
4. PERRUSO, Amy A.	X			
5. QUINLAN, Sean	X			
6. WARD, Gene				X
TOTAL (6)	5			1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee action(s) _____ Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				