STAND. COM. REP. NO.

Honolulu, Hawaii MAR 11 , 2025

1176

RE: S.B. No. 448 S.D. 1 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 S.B. No. 448, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire a conservation easement in Central Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Farmers Union.

Your Committee finds that conservation easements serve as a tool to preserve agricultural lands, supporting the State's goal of increasing local food production. Despite ambitious mandates, such as requiring thirty percent of public school food to be locally sourced by 2030 and fifty percent of state department produce purchases to be local by 2050, stronger action is needed to protect agricultural lands for future food production. This measure appropriates funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire a conservation easement on agricultural lands in Central Oahu, ensuring long-term agricultural viability.

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Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- Clarifying that the appropriation is for the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire a conservation easement on agricultural lands in Central Oahu;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 448, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 448, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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

KAHALOA, lair

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State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-third Legislature



## Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems

Bill/Resolution No.: 5B448, 5D4 Committe AGR	e Referral:	Date	3/7/25	-
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to:  Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Pasd Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
AGR Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. KAHALOA, Kirstin (C)				
	g. Beer			
2. KUSCH, Matthias (VC)				
3. LOWEN, Nicole E.				
4. PERRUSO, Amy A.	$\checkmark$			
5. QUINLAN, Sean	V	and the second	Pin antista - a l	
6. WARD, Gene				
				<b>v</b>
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TOTAL (6)	4			2
The recommendation is: 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				