

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

463

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2025

RE: S.B. No. 522
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 522 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HALAULA AGRICULTURAL PARCEL,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation for the purchase of the Halaula Agricultural Parcel for agricultural development.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Island Harvest Inc.; Surety Kohala Corporation; North Kohala Community Development Plan Advisory Group; North Kohala Community Resource Center; Kohala Medical Herb Farm; Boteilho Hawaii Enterprises, Inc.; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and eighteen individuals

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that strategic investment is necessary to revitalize the State's agricultural industry, which is critical to food security. This measure will create jobs locally while

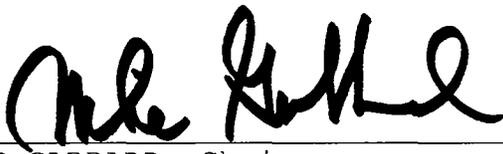


stimulating the economy and self-sufficiency statewide by investing in a historically underserved but fertile region through the Agribusiness Development Corporation, an entity that is well-equipped to realize its development.

Your Committees have amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 522, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 522, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Economic
Development and Tourism and
Agriculture and Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



LYNN DECORTE, Chair



