STAND. COM. REP. NO. 217

Honolulu, Hawaii **MAR 14** , 2025 RE: S.B. No. 890

S.D. 2 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. 890, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS REGULATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require any products labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" to contain a label stating whether the product is made wholly from ingredients grown in the State or from ingredients sourced outside the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Kako'o Oiwi; Ko'olau Foundation; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that poi is a fundamental part of Native Hawaiian culture, with deep historical and spiritual significance tied to kalo, or taro. Mislabeling products as "poi" when they are not entirely made from locally grown kalo misleads consumers, undermines cultural traditions, and threatens the livelihoods of Hawaii's kalo farmers. This measure preserves the authenticity of poi products in the State and ensures transparency in food labeling.



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Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that any products labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" are required to contain a label stating whether the product is made wholly from kalo grown in the State or from kalo sourced outside the State;
- (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. 890, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 890, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

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

KIRSTIN KAHALOA, Chai



State of Hawaii House of Representatives

The Thirty-third Legislature Hisce 1217

Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 890, SD2 Committee Referral: AGR, ECD, CPC Date: 3/12/25				
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) 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)				
2. KUSCH, Matthias (VC)		and the second		
3. LOWEN, Nicole E.				
4. PERRUSO, Amy A.	N/			
T. ADARCISO, Amy A.				
5. QUINLAN, Sean	X			
				ingen ander solle solle Marine ander solle so
6. WARD, Gene				X
TOTAL (6)	5			
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				