

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **1443**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2007

RE: H.B. No. 899
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 899, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INTEGRATED STRATEGIES FOR
STATEWIDE FOOD AND ENERGY CROP PRODUCTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to finance a pilot project to develop ecologically-sustainable strategies to amend soil fertility for the production of clean energy feedstocks and food crops.

Your Committee received comments supporting the measure from Joule Junction, LLC and an individual. The University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine provided comments.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crop yields for use as food and clean energy feedstocks are strongly dependent on sufficient levels of available nutrients for plant uptake. Thus, a major determinant to a successful and sustainable agricultural venture in Hawaii is an adequate and sustainable fertilizer regime.

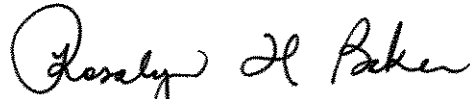
The use of biomass-derived charcoal as a tropical soil additive has been verified by modern science and used for agricultural purposes since ancient times. The production of biomass-derived charcoal for soil nutrient enhancement may satisfy community electrical needs while at the same time reduce carbon



dioxide levels in the atmosphere. This process has the potential to not only assist in reducing Hawaii's dependence on petroleum-based products, but also decrease the need for fertilizer used in crop production. Comprehensive agricultural management strategies would not only lead to long-term economic stability of Hawaii's agrarian-based industries, but also reduce levels of contaminated sediments in statewide waterways and surrounding ocean waters, as well as reduce greenhouse gases and global warming.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 899, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 899 HDI, SDI	Committee Referral: ENE/NAH, WAM	Date: 3/28/07		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	/			
HOOSER, Gary L.	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
MENOR, Ron	/			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred	/			
WHALEN, Paul				/
TOTAL	10	0	0	1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Distribution: Original File with Committee Report </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Yellow Clerk's Office </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Pink Drafting Agency </div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes