STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2556

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 2 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2670

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui President of the Senate Twenty-Sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2012 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Water, Land, and Housing and Energy and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2670 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC LAND LEASEHOLDERS RIGHTS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Board of Land and Natural Resources to seek input from existing lessees or public land during the Board's consideration of a renewable energy producer's proposal and whether to lease that land to the renewable energy producer.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Molokai Farm Bureau, and five individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees find that this measure stems from actions by the Board of Land and Natural Resources in November 2008 where there was a proposal for a direct lease to be awarded to a biofuels company for 37,000 acres of state lands that had been leased to several ranchers at the time. Those tenants were never notified of the proceedings.

Because of the demise of many segments of Hawaii's livestock industry, it is important to work with existing producers to ensure the industry's sustainability. This measure would encourage state agencies and leaseholders to work together to allow renewable energy projects to co-exist with current

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leaseholders' industries. For example, compromises can be negotiated to improve the infrastructure of the land to accommodate both projects' needs. As another alternative is for a displaced tenant's losses to be offset where it appears equitable and feasible, as a condition of taking back a portion of the lease. Losing control of large tracts of land that are mostly leased from the State will only contribute to the already fragile state of the livestock industry.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water, Land, and Housing and Energy and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2670 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

> behalf of the members of the Committees on Water, Land, and Housing and Energy and Environment,

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

Respectfully submitted on

The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Water, Land and Housing WLH

Committee Referral: Date:							
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SB2670 WLH ENE 2-23-12 The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.							
If so, then the previous decision was to:							
The Recommendation is:							
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313							
	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused			
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Chair's or Designee's Signature:							
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Energy and Environment ENE

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2670	Committee WLH	Referral: ENE	Dat M	e: archl, i	2012			
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: Pass with a mend ments								
The Recommendation is:								
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313								
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused			
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Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted								
Chair's or Designee's Signature:								
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