

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **1332**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 07 2015

RE: H.B. No. 205
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 205, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATED TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to update the State's agricultural planning statute to add the growth and development of traditional Hawaiian farming systems and traditional Hawaiian crops, as well as the growth and development of small-scale farms, as agricultural objectives of the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce; Aha Moku Advisory Committee; Ho'okipa Network - Kauai; Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club; College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; The Trust for Public Land; Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development; Hawai'i Green Growth; King Kamehameha Hawaiian Civic Club; Ewa Puuloa Hawaiian Civic Club; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and thirteen individuals.

Article XI, section 3, of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i requires the Legislature to provide standards and criteria to increase Hawai'i's agricultural self-sufficiency.



Your Committee finds that prioritizing traditional agricultural techniques such as traditional Hawaiian farming is increasingly viewed as good policy. The United Nations Commission on Trade and Development urges nation states to support the development of sustainable small-scale farms and traditional farming systems to achieve food security, particularly in light of climate change. Supporting traditional farming is also consistent with the recommendations of the Taro Security and Purity Task Force's 2010 legislative report *E ola hou ke kalo; ho'i hou ka 'āina lē'ia: The taro lives; abundance returns to the land*. The report emphasizes the need to invest in traditional farming and crops to perpetuate culture and to support disaster preparedness and food security in our islands.

Your Committee further finds that many small farms incorporate native Hawaiian resource methodology which results in an increase in local food production. Time-tested Native Hawaiian traditional farming methods represent successful agricultural technologies that are ecologically sustainable, culturally significant, and critical to Hawai'i's long-term food security and self-sufficiency goals. Adding these methods to the State's planning objectives would contribute to the sustainability of local food production while continuing to perpetuate Native Hawaiian cultural contributions.

Your Committee supports the practice of traditional Hawaiian farming as a means to promote Hawaii's agricultural self-sufficiency. Your Committee also finds that traditional Hawaiian farming systems still play a critical role in Hawai'i and should be encouraged in order to promote greater self-sufficiency, crop diversity, and food security. Moreover, traditional Hawaiian crops like kalo, 'uala (sweet potato), limu (various seaweeds), 'awa, hō'i'o (large native fern), and 'olena (turmeric) that were cultivated using these traditional Hawaiian farming techniques continue to be important agricultural products for food, medicine, and cultural practices today.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 205, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water and Land,



LAURA H. THIELEN, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
H0205 HD1 SD1	HWN/AGL, WTL	4.1.15		
<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"><div style="margin-right: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____</div></div>				
The Recommendation is:				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div></div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
THIELEN, Laura H. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	5			2
Recommendation:				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</div></div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes