

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2953

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 15 2018

RE: H.B. No. 1976

H.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 1976, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IRRIGATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to provide additional funding for improvements to the Waiahole irrigation system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Local Food Coalition; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Maui County Farm Bureau; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Monsanto; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that a reliable irrigation system is the lifeline of Hawaii's agricultural industry. To ensure that Hawaii's crops receive a steady and dependable supply of water, sufficient funding is needed to maintain and improve Hawaii's irrigation systems. Your Committee further finds that the Waiahole irrigation system was constructed in 1915 to irrigate thousands of acres of sugarcane. The system collects groundwater



from the windward side of Oahu and transports the water via tunnels to the leeward side of Oahu, where it is conveyed through ditches and siphons by gravity flow to supply vital irrigation water to lands between Waipio and Kunia; however, the system is currently in need of efficiency improvements.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1976, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture and
Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

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|--|--|-------------------------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1976 HD 1 | Committee Referral: AEN, WAM | Date: 3/12/18 |
|--|--|-------------------------|

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

| Members | Aye | Aye (WR) | Nay | Excused |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| GABBARD, Mike (C) | X | | | |
| RIVIERE, Gil (VC) | X | | | |
| NISHIHARA, Clarence K. | X | | | |
| RHOADS, Karl | X | | | |
| RUDERMAN, Russell E. | X | | | |
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| TOTAL | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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 File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**