STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2919

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 2 7 2020

RE: S.B. No. 2532

S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirtieth State Legislature Regular Session of 2020 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 2532, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMPOSTING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a class of artisan-scale composting operations exempt from Department of Health regulations to divert organic materials from Hawaii's landfills.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaii Forest Stewards, Zero Waste Big Island, Momilani Farm, Pele Lani Farm LLC, Aina Design, Sustainable Island Products, Down to Earth Organic and Natural, Recycle Hawaii, and thirty-four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the use of composted organics with their vast stores of macro- and micro-nutrients greatly improves the health of all soils in ways that protect and enhance natural systems. Because organics in landfilled waste are the largest source of human-generated methane, and because methane is a greenhouse gas, the diversion of waste organics into composting programs offers the least costly and most direct method for significantly reducing the amount of methane emitted from Hawaii's



landfills. This measure allows for the establishment of a statewide composting distribution system that diverts organic materials from Hawaii's landfills to further serve the needs of farmers and rural communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the proposed statutory language under chapter 342H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, rather than chapter 225P, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Clarifying that artisan-scale operations are exempt from only composting permitting requirements and related rules;
- (3) Deleting provisions related to precipitation, surface water, and groundwater that has come into contact with yard trimmings or the resultant product;
- (4) Inserting language that requires artisan composters to maintain records;
- (5) Clarifying the definition of "artisan scale" by specifying non-pathogenic organic materials; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2532, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2532, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

ROSALYN H. HAKER, Chair

The Senate Thirtieth Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health CPH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:		
5B 2532 SDI	AEN WTL, CPH			2/20/20		
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						
Members		Aye	Aye (W	R)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)		~				
CHANG, Stanley (VC)		1				
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.						7
RUDERMAN, Russell E.						~
THIELEN, Laura H.						1
WAKAI, Glenn		V				
FEVELLA, Kurt		1				
		-				
		<u> </u>				
TOTAL		4				3
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted						
Chair's or Designee's Signature:						
Distribution: Original File with Committee Rep	Yellow Pink Goldenrod port Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

^{*}Only one measure per Record of Votes