

Honolulu, Hawaii **FEB 19**, 2021 RE: H.B. No. 236

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2021 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 236 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COFFEE PEST CONTROL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset dates for the Pesticide Subsidy Program and Pesticide Subsidy Program Manager position to enable the program to:

- Continue assisting coffee growers in responding to the newly discovered coffee leaf rust;
- (2) Continue assisting coffee growers in managing the coffee berry borer infestation; and
- (3) Add control methods for coffee leaf rust as an eligible reimbursable item.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, University of Hawai'i System, Rancho Aloha, Synergistic Hawaii Agriculture Council, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Kona Coffee Farmers Association, and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the coffee berry borer, an invasive beetle, has been found on all islands in the State. In 2020, coffee leaf rust was discovered for the first time in the State on



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the islands of Maui and Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that these two pests threaten the viability of the State's entire coffee industry, which represents one of the largest agricultural crops in the State and is a highly valued part of Hawaii's economy. The two-year extension of the Pesticide Subsidy Program and Pesticide Subsidy Program Manager position proposed by this measure will allow the State to continue to subsidize the cost of pesticides best shown to combat coffee berry borers and coffee leaf rust, thus incentivizing coffee growers to adopt recommended pest management strategies.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 236 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Agriculture,



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-first Legislature HSCR 550

Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture

Bill/Resolution No.: 236 Committee Referral: Date: 2/17/21						
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.						
The recommendation is to: Image: Pass, unamended (as is) Image: Pass, with amendments (HD) Image: Hold Image: Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)						
AGR Member	S	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused	
1. HASHEM, Mark J. (C)		\checkmark				
2. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)						
3. LOWEN, Nicole E.	an an ann an Anna an Anna an Anna Anna					
4. MARTEN, Lisa						
5. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z.	n an	$ $ \checkmark				
6. TODD, Chris						
7. TOKIOKA, James Kunan	le	\checkmark				
8. MATSUMOTO, Lauren	n an				<u></u>	
o. WAISONOTO, Lauren		v				
TOTAL (8)	/	8				
	ne recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: WMW HMWD						
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO						