

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1327

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 2023

RE: H.B. No. 306
H.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Higher Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 306, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ORNAMENTAL GINGER,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for statewide research through the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources into ornamental ginger pathogens, the prevention of the spread of ornamental ginger pathogens, the production and distribution of pathogen-free ornamental ginger plants, and outreach to ornamental ginger producers.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Maui County Farm Bureau, Land Use Research Foundation, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association, East Oahu County Farm Bureau, and seven individuals.

Your Committees find that commercial production of ornamental ginger has been on a steady decline for years, due to the emergence of several deadly plant viruses and diseases. In 2018, a team of specialists and virologists from the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and Department of Agriculture, identified a combination of six



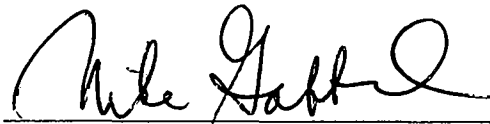
viruses, including two viruses discovered during the survey, which are responsible for the demise of ornamental ginger plants in Hawaii. The viruses were found to be present statewide, but are most prevalent on Oahu and Hawaii island. Your Committees further find that virus-infected plants cannot be cured and that most large-scale growing operations have plants that are virus-infected. Without more research and the implementation of informed prevention strategies through a multi-agency outreach approach, these viruses can spread further and impact the profitability and long-term survivability of the local ornamental and landscape production industries. Therefore, this measure appropriates funds for further research into ornamental ginger viruses, pathogens, and diseases, and potential prevention strategies and production methods for disease-free plants, and provides funds for outreach to inform ornamental ginger growers of any new and valuable disease-related discoveries.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Higher Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 306, H.D. 2, and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Agriculture and
Environment and Higher
Education,



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 306, HD 2	AEN / HRE, WAM	03-20-23

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

The Recommendation is:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313
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Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton			X	
TOTAL	4		1	

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

The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes
Committee on Higher Education
HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 306 HD2	AGN/HRE, NAM	3/20/23		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	/			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	/			/
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	34	male		1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
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