STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1195

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 0 2023

RE: H.B. No. 1149 H.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 1149, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for existing positions and activities related to coconut rhinoceros beetle infestation control.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; East Oahu County Farm Bureau; Pacific Agricultural Land Management Systems; Palakamoon Farms; Waimanalo Agricultural Association; Happy Plants Nursery; Island Grower Supplies, LLC; Natura Nursery; Coastline Landscaping; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Island Food Scaping; Waimanalo Agricultural Association; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the coconut rhinoceros beetle is a major pest of coconut and ornamental palms and can also be found in betelnut, Pandanus species, banana, pineapple, papaya, sugarcane, and taro plants. The coconut rhinoceros beetle damages living palms and either kills the trees by direct damage, or exposes the tree for damage and death by other insects. The



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coconut rhinoceros beetle thrives on islands in the Pacific due to a lack of natural predators and in Palau, where the beetle first invaded in 1942, the coconut palm was eradicated entirely on some islands. Your Committee further acknowledges that the coconut rhinoceros beetle was initially identified on Oahu in 2013 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam during a routine survey by the Department of Agriculture and the University of Hawaii. The unregulated movement of green waste has led to the spread of the coconut rhinoceros beetle throughout Oahu and continued investment in monitoring, research, and management is necessary to mitigate further damage on Oahu and prevent the beetle's spread to other islands. Therefore, this measure appropriates funds to support existing coconut rhinoceros beetle response positions and activities to mitigate and reduce the presence and detrimental impacts of the coconut rhinoceros beetle.

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. 1149, H.D. 2, 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 Thirty-Second Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Agriculture and Environment AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:		Da	Date:		
HB 1149, HD2	AEN, WAM			03-15-23		
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		Ауе	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused	
GABBARD, Mike (C)		$\boldsymbol{\times}$				
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)		$\boldsymbol{\times}$				
DECOITE, Lynn		X				
RHOADS, Karl		$\underline{\times}$				
AWA, Brenton		\times				
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TOTAL		5				
Recommendation:						
Adopted Not Adopted						
Chair's or Designee's Signature:						
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy						

*Only one measure per Record of Votes