

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3142

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1815
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,
to which was referred H.B. No. 1815, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to include
agritourism in the definition of "enterprise" to authorize the
Agribusiness Development Corporation to financially support
businesses engaged in agritourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Office of the Mayor
of the County of Maui, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Chamber of Commerce
Hawaii, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the
Hawai'i Farmers Union United.

Your Committee finds that agritourism comes with economic
benefits for farmers and ranchers. From generating additional
income and direct marketing to preserving farms, farmland, and
local culture and traditions, agritourism diversifies farmers'
income streams, meaning they can make money outside of their
regular planting season. This measure will diversify the State's



economy in a holistic way that positions the tourism industry to give back to the State's communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of January 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1815, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1815, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy, Economic
Development, and Tourism,


LYNN DECOITE, Chair



