

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 670

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 17 , 2023

RE: H.B. No. 284
H.D. 2

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development, to which was referred
H.B. No. 284, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TARO,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to temporarily exempt from the
general excise tax all of the gross proceeds or income received
from the sale of any product resulting from the cultivation and
production of unprocessed taro or of any value-added product of
which the primary ingredient is taro or taro leaf.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Agriculture, Office of the Mayor of the
County of Maui, Hawai'i Farmers Union United, Hawai'i Farm Bureau,
Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and two individuals. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,
Department of Taxation, and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the temporary general excise tax
exemption created by this measure will reduce the tax burden on
taro farmers and help to create stronger economic incentives for
new taro farmers, improve the livelihoods of existing taro
farmers, and reduce the cost of poi for consumers in the Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Changing its effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 284, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 284, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Economic
Development,



DANIEL HOLT, Chair



