

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 06 2023

RE: H.B. No. 690  
H.D. 1  
S.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 Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 690, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to facilitate agricultural investment.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Establishes within the Department of Agriculture the Hawaii agricultural investment program, which is intended to provide matching grants for certain agricultural programs and activities;
- (2) Requires the Department of Agriculture to submit to the Legislature annual reports regarding the programs and activities funded under the Hawaii agricultural investment program; and
- (3) Appropriates moneys to the Department of Agriculture to establish the Hawaii agricultural investment program and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions within the program.



Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Ulupono Initiative, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Local Food Coalition, Hawaii Farmers Union United, Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action, and two individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and Humane Society of the United States.

Your Committee recognizes that more than eighty-five percent of all food consumed in the State is imported, and that food security is a top priority. Your Committee finds that a dedicated source of funding for agricultural programs and activities will help alleviate the financial burdens that affect the State's agricultural sector.

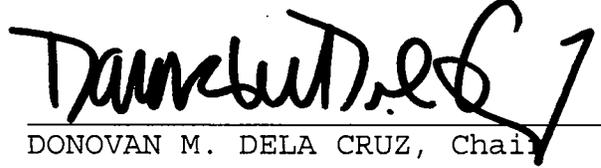
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing the Hawaii agricultural investment program within and appropriating related moneys to the Agribusiness Development Corporation, rather than the Department of Agriculture;
- (2) Deleting a provision requiring that every \$3 of a grant awarded through the program and paid from state funds be matched by \$1 paid from federal, private, or other sources; and
- (3) Requiring that the annual report to the Legislature regarding the programs and activities funded under the program include an assessment of the number of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers served by the program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 690, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 690, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB690, HD1, SD1	AEN, WAM	4/5/23
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313		
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)
Nay	Excused	
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	✓	
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)		✓
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	✓	
DECOITE, Lynn	✓	
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓	
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓	
KIDANI, Michelle N.	✓	
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓	
LEE, Chris	✓	
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.		✓
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.		✓
WAKAI, Glenn	✓	
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	10	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
<b>Distribution:</b> Original             Yellow             Pink             Goldenrod File with Committee Report             Clerk's Office             Drafting Agency             Committee File Copy		

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes