

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2415

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2361  
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 Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2361 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish two grant specialist positions within the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Appropriate an unspecified amount of funds for the establishment of the two grant specialist positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Maui County Farm Bureau; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Ka 'Ohana O Na Pua; Ulupono Initiative LLC; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Local Food Coalition; Ponoholo Ranch, Limited; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that there are many federal funding opportunities for agricultural purposes that remain untapped or overlooked due to the lack of adequate grant writing and expertise in the Department of Agriculture. This measure will enhance the Department's capacity to pursue and maximize the availability of federal funds to bolster the State's efforts towards food security



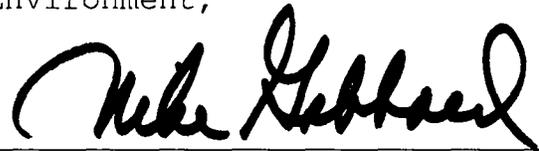
and sustainability, while easing the burden of complex application procedures and compliance challenges to farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural operators that pursue federal and other funding.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$225,000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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 S.B. No. 2361, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2361, S.D. 1, 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 Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2361</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AEN, WAM</b>	Date: <b>1/31/24</b>		
<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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)				✓
DECOITE, Lynn				✓
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <span style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em; margin-left: 200px;">Karl Rhoads</span>				
<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**