

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2762

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 29 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2447

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Judiciary,
to which was referred S.B. No. 2447 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to add the
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
Affairs to the Board of Agriculture.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and two individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the
Department of Agriculture.

Your Committees find that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is
the principle agency of the State responsible for the performance,
development, and coordination of programs and activities for the
betterment of conditions of Native Hawaiians. Your Committees
recognize that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs not only manages a
substantial and every-increasing portfolio of agriculturally-zoned
legacy lands, but also has dedicated a significant amount of funds
to support Native Hawaiian farmers over the last decade. This
measure recognizes the role of Native Hawaiian farmers and the
value that customary Native Hawaiian agriculture and aquaculture
practice bring to the State as it works to reach its food security



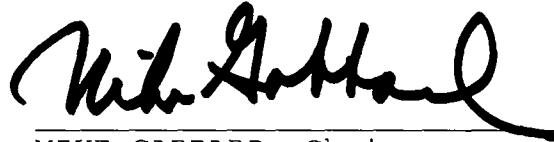
and sustainability goals by ensuring that Native Hawaiian interests are represented on the Board of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2447 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



