

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2207

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 09 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2817
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 Higher Education, to which was referred
S.B. No. 2817 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate
funds to the University of Hawaii to establish five
administrative, professional, and technical full-time equivalent
(5.0 APT FTE) positions at the College of Tropical Agriculture and
Human Resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the University of Hawai'i System, University of Hawaii
Professional Assembly, and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that extension agents within the College
of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources of the University of
Hawaii at Manoa serve as a valuable bridge between their
respective communities and innovative research breakthroughs in
the agriculture industry. Agricultural producers work closely
with extension agents, who provide agricultural technologies
pertinent to the State's farmers and ranchers, including the
production and development of biological and cultural methods for
minimizing the use of chemicals in agriculture. However, the
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources has



experienced a decline in available staffing resources to support its mandate. Therefore, this measure provides increased staffing resources to support the development of new and existing agricultural practices statewide.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the five full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE) positions are faculty positions rather than administrative, technical, and professional positions;
- (2) Changing the source of the appropriation from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund to the general revenues of the State of Hawaii;
- (3) Inserting language specifying that this measure addresses an issue of statewide concern; and
- (4) 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 Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2817, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2817, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Higher Education,



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



