

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2531

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2024

RE: S.B. No. 572
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. 572, 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:

- (1) Allow the Department of Agriculture (Department) to declare a biosecurity emergency in certain circumstances and with the approval of the Governor;
- (2) Outline the terms of a declared biosecurity emergency;
- (3) Require the Department to implement certain requirements for agricultural commodity importers; and
- (4) Allow the Department to:
 - (A) Impose fines on agricultural commodity importers who fail to comply with the requirements;
 - (B) Subpoena necessary documentation from agricultural commodity importers relating to a known or suspected infestation of pests; and



- (C) Quarantine any farm, facility, or business that is known to be infested with pests.

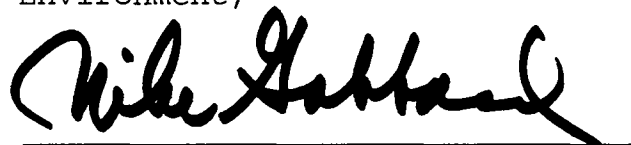
Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and Ka 'Ohana O Na Pua.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species.

Your Committee finds that the entry and establishment of a new, devastating pest or disease is an ever-present reality, given the increase and expansion of global trade and travel. Your Committee recognizes that the arrival and spread of new invasive species in the State can lead to significant economic and environmental loss. According to testimony received by your Committee, this measure is a major step in enabling the Department of Agriculture to rapidly respond to new pest introductions.

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. 572, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading 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.:* SB 572, SD1	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: 02-12-24		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X	X		
AWA, Brenton	X			
TOTAL	4	1		
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes