STAND. COM. REP. NO. 724 -24



Honolulu, Hawaii FEB 29 , 2024

H.B. No. 2505 RE: H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular, Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAND USE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1)Increase the fines for violations of land use laws; and
- (2) Impose enhanced fines for developers and owners of Important Agricultural Lands who repeatedly use the lands for unintended purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the State established the designation of Important Agricultural Lands to fulfill a constitutional mandate to conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural selfsufficiency, and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands. However, your Committee notes that there are individuals abusing the Important Agricultural Land designation as

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much of these lands are fallow and have not actively been used for farming or ranching. This measure will disincentivize any unintended uses of Important Agricultural Lands by imposing enhanced fines for those who do not use these lands as intended.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

TARNAS, Chair

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State of Hawaii



## Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HB2505, HPI WAL, JHA Date: 2.23.24				
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold   Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	/			
2. TAKAYAMA, Gregg (VC)				
3. EVSLIN, Luke A.	/			
4. GANADEN, Sonny	/			
5. HOLT, Daniel				/
6. ICHIYAMA, Linda	/			
7. ILAGAN, Greggor	/			
8. KONG, Sam Satoru	/			
9. MIYAKE, Tyson K.				
10. SOUZA, Kanani				/
TOTAL (10)	8	-	-	2
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution:   Original (White) – Committee   Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office   Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				