

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2409**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2412
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. 2412 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AQUACULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Aquaculture Advisory Committee within the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Appropriate an unspecified amount of funds for the establishment of the Aquaculture Advisory Committee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from Department of Agriculture and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the growth of the State's aquaculture industry increases the economic resilience and food sustainability of the State. According to testimony received by your Committee, the farm gate value of Hawaii's aquaculture industry is \$80,000,000, making aquaculture the second-highest contributor to the economy in diversified agriculture. Your Committee recognizes that more investment and research into the



aquaculture industry is necessary to strengthen and build the capacity for this growing industry. This measure will establish an advisory committee to provide expert and credible guidance to the State's aquaculture development sector.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language requiring a representative of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau that is experienced in aquaculture to serve as a member of the advisory committee;
- (2) Inserting language clarifying that the members of the advisory committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$50,000; 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 Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2412, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2412, 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.:* SB 2412	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: 2/2/24
---	--	------------------------

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit

2312 2311 2310 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton				X
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: Adopted 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**

Revised: 12/27/23