Honolulu, Hawaii
MAR 0 3 2023

RE: S.B. No. 655 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2023 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 655, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEMP,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to give authority to the Department of Agriculture to align state hemp production administrative rules with federal law, with regard to exemptions for fiber, fuel, and seed grain hemp crops.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Hawai'i Hemp Farmers
Association, Hawaiian Choice, Agripelago, Hawai'i Farm Bureau,
Hawai'i Farmers Union United, and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Hawai'i Sustainable Farms.

Your Committee finds that hemp continues to provide an opportunity for farmers to diversify and expand agriculture production into new areas. Despite this, overregulation slows the growth of the hemp industry, which otherwise could foster sustainable resources and food security in the State. This measure will support and grow Hawai'i's hemp industry by giving the Department of Agriculture the authority to align certain state hemp production administrative rules with federal law.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 655, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary,

KARL RHOADS, Chair

The Senate Thirty-Second Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* らなららうし	Committee Referral: ABN/PSM, UDC			Date: 2 24 23	
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
RHOADS, Karl (C)					
GABBARD, Mike (VC)					
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.					
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A	١.				
AWA, Brenton		V			
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TOTAL		5			
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