

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 12 2025**RE: S.B. No. 1003  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, to which  
was referred S.B. No. 1003 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the  
issuance of general obligation bonds for the Agribusiness  
Development Corporation (ADC) to purchase a land parcel in Kau for  
agricultural development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council; Ka'u Coffee  
Growers Cooperative; United Ka'u Farmers Cooperative; Island  
Harvest Inc.; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; Ka'u  
Ocean Vista Coffee Estate; Rusty's Hawaiian, Isla Custom Coffees;  
and three individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the  
Agribusiness Development Corporation and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that Kau, on Hawaii island, has long  
been a cornerstone of the State's agricultural heritage,  
successfully diversifying farming and agricultural activities in  
the twenty-first century. A key region for agricultural  
stability, Kau has the potential to increase Hawaii's food  
security and resiliency. Your Committee believes that there is a



current disparity in support to local farmers and agricultural workers, particularly in state assistance to Kau. This state assistance can be best actualized through the ADC, under the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, due to their clear mandate of providing key support, resources, and initiatives to local farmers throughout the State. This measure will bolster Kau by authorizing the issuance of general obligation funds for the ADC to purchase agricultural land in Kau to provide critical support to farms in the region.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying the name of the fee owner of the property to be acquired by ADC;
- (2) Inserting a blank general obligation bonds issuance and appropriation amount;
- (3) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that this measure, as amended, contains an unspecified general obligation bonds issuance and appropriation amount. Should your Committee on Ways and Means choose to deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider inserting an amount of \$2,931,960.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development and Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1003, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1003, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Economic  
Development and Tourism,

*Lynn DeCoite*

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LYNN DECOITE, Chair



**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Economic Development and Tourism**  
**EDT**

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes