STAND. COM. REP. NO. 78

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2025

MAR 20

RE: S.B. No. 177

S.D. 1 H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred S.B. No. 177, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AQUACULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Division of Animal Industry to develop that process through a biological aquatic risk-based framework.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's aquaculture industry has a farm gate value of \$89,600,000 -- the second-highest contribution to the economy in diversified agriculture. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii is home to some of the most unique and biodiverse marine ecosystems in the world; however, these ecosystems are highly sensitive to external influences, including the introduction of non-native aquatic species. Disease can devastate aquaculture industries and a risk-based framework and biocontainment standards are important protections for aquaculture operations and aquatic ecosystems. This measure therefore provides authority for the development of a comprehensive assessment and approval process to help prevent disease from entering aquaculture operations in the State and protect native aquatic species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 177, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,

SCOT Z. MATAYOSHI, Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-third Legislature

HSCR 1381

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: SB177, SD1, HD1	Committee Referral: AGR, CFC, FIN	Date:	3/18/	25
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)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z. (C)				
2. CHUN, Cory M. (VC)	V			
3. ILAGAN, Greggor				* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
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4. ICHIYAMA, Linda				
5. IWAMOTO, Kim Coco	V			
6. KONG, Sam Satoru				
West, Sam Satora				
7. LOWEN, Nicole E.				
8. MARTEN, Lisa	V			70 A D S D S D S D S D S D S D S D S D S D
9. TAM, Adrian K.				
J. TAWI, AUITAII K.				
10. PIERICK, Elijah			PARAMENTAL STATE OF THE STATE O	
TOTAL (10)	8			2
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
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