STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3154

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 24 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2155
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 2155, H.D. 2, entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

(1) Statutorily establish the Agricultural Statistics Program within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to collect data on local agricultural interests; and

(2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity; Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; Local Food Coalition; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and Maui County Farm Bureau.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience.

Your Committee finds that a robust and well-resourced agricultural statistics program is essential to supporting the State's agricultural production goals, measuring the impact of public investments, and identifying opportunities to strengthen local supply chains in alignment with established benchmarks. While the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity is mandated to collect accurate agricultural data, the Department has faced several challenges due to both State and federal budget cuts, ultimately impeding its ability to maintain a robust system for tracking essential agricultural data. By revitalizing the State's agricultural statistics program, this measure will support the long-term success of agricultural producers in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and

(2) 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 H.B. No. 2155, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2155, H.D. 2, 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-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 2155, HD2	AEN, WAM	3-16-26

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☐ Pass, unamended 2312 ☒ Pass, with amendments 2311 ☐ Hold 2310 ☐ Recommit 2313

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

Recommendation: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

Distribution: Original – File with Committee Report; Yellow – Committee; Pink – Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/02/26