STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2850

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR - 5 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2350
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2350, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to facilitate the growth of the State's agricultural sector.

Specifically, this measure transfers the rights, powers, and duties of the Aquaculture and Livestock Support Services Branch and Agricultural Development Division of the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to the Agribusiness Development Corporation, except for the rights, powers, and duties that relate to animal health, biosecurity enforcement, inspections, and permitting compliance.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from Marine Genetics LLC and two individuals.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Animal Rights Hawaii, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Agribusiness

Development Corporation, and Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the intent of the reorganization presented by this measure is to strategically realign certain industry development functions by placing them within the Agribusiness Development Corporation to improve administrative efficiency and service delivery. Your Committee further finds that certain regulatory functions should remain within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to maintain stability in aquatic livestock permitting, disease and pest control, and biosecurity oversight.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Requiring that only the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the Aquaculture and Livestock Support Services Branch of the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity that relate to agricultural enterprises, as that term is defined in section 141D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be transferred to the Agribusiness Development Corporation;

(2) Clarifying that the regulatory functions and authority of the Aquaculture and Livestock Support Services Branch of the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity shall remain with that Department; and

(3) Deleting language that would have transferred the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the Agricultural Development Division of the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2350, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2350, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

Committee on Ways and Means,

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2050, SD1	AEN/EDT, WAM	3/2/2026

☐ 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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	13	0	0	0

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