

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 18** , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2619  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 2619  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMEMADE FOOD PRODUCTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of  
Health to regulate farm kitchens under administrative rules on the  
same basis as home kitchens producing homemade food products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau;  
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; CARES;  
and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this  
measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that homemade food product operations  
provide important opportunities for small-scale food producers to  
participate in local food systems while maintaining public health  
protections. Your Committee further finds that while the  
Department of Health has enacted administrative rules to regulate  
home kitchens and homemade food products, it has not adopted rules  
to regulate farm kitchens. As a result, agricultural producers in  
Hawaii face ambiguity in whether they can turn off-grade and  
excess production into homemade food products that can be sold to  
consumers. This measure is intended to enable Hawaii's farmers to



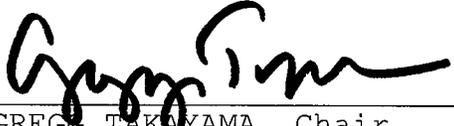
diversify their revenue streams while maintaining core public health protections.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Health is to adopt rules for the regulation of farm kitchens producing homemade food products that are no more stringent than those for home kitchens producing homemade food products;
- (2) Amending the definitions of "home kitchen", "homemade food products", and "farm kitchen";
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2619, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2619, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

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

  
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GREGG TAKAYAMA, Chair



