

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2234

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2317
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 S.B. No. 2317 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Direct the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to conduct a study on insurance coverage for small agricultural producers; and
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to submit a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Hawai'i Farmers Union United, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association.

Your Committee finds that insurance coverage for small agricultural producers has been an ongoing need in the State's agricultural sector. Small agricultural producers face unique challenges due to factors that include the volatility of local weather patterns, prevalence of invasive species, and fluctuating market conditions. Accordingly, this measure will require the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to conduct a study on



insurance coverage for small agricultural producers to provide valuable insight into the risks of those producers and illuminate potential pathways for safeguarding their operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

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 S.B. No. 2317, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2317, 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.:* SB 2317	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: 2-4-26
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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)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton	X			
TOTAL	5	-	-	-

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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***Only one measure per Record of Votes**