

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2181

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 11 2026**

RE: S.B. No. 2318  
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. 2318 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) Codify the Agricultural Statistics Program in statute;  
and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Farmers Union United, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience.

Your Committee finds that agricultural statistics and analyses are a fundamental function of departments of agriculture nationwide and are necessary for agricultural producers and policymakers to make informed short- and long-term economic



decisions with respect to the State's agricultural sector. Your Committee also finds, however, that the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity has been unable to effectively fulfill this function due to limited staffing. This measure will enhance and revitalize the Agricultural Statistics Program and appropriate funds for additional staffing to develop and support a robust and resilient agricultural sector in the State.

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. 2318, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2318, 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,



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MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2318</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AEN, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2-4-26</b>
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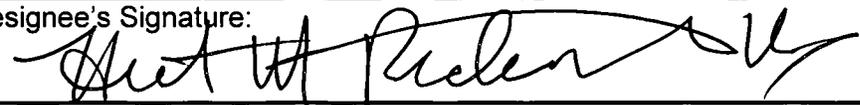
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

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			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Recommendation:    
 Adopted    
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  


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

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