

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2798
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 Public Safety and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2798 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Make permanent the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program established pursuant to Act 235, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025; and
- (2) Rename the program as the Agricultural Enforcement Program and expand the program statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Department of Law Enforcement, Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crimes pose a threat, not only to public safety and the livelihoods of farmers, but also to the food security of the State and vibrancy of local economies. These crimes can take a variety of forms, including theft, vandalism, and unauthorized hunting, which can result in the accidental shooting of livestock. Act 235, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025, established the Agriculture Enforcement Pilot Program to

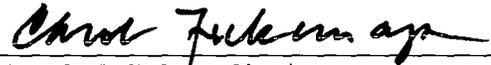


provide a comprehensive response to these crimes by strengthening existing legal frameworks and establishing clearer definitions and penalties for violations related to agriculture and agricultural lands. This measure recognizes the success of the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program by making it permanent and expanding it to cover agricultural enforcement statewide.

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

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2798, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2798, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety and
Military Affairs,

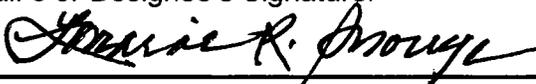


CAROL FUKUNAGA, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
PSM

| | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* | Committee Referral: | Date: |
| SB2798 | PSM, WAM | 2-11-2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____ | | |
| The Recommendation is: | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 | | |
| Members | Aye | Aye (WR) |
| Nay | Excused | |
| FUKUNAGA, Carol (C) | ✓ | |
| LEE, Chris (VC) | | ✓ |
| HASHIMOTO, Troy N. | ✓ | |
| INOUYE, Lorraine R. | ✓ | |
| DECORTE, Samantha | | ✓ |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| TOTAL | 3 | 2 |
| Recommendation: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> 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