

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 21 2015

RE: H.C.R. No. 187  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 187, H.D. 1, entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO CLARIFY AND COORDINATE AGRICULTURAL-BASED COMMERCE SUPPORT OF BONA-FIDE FARMING OPERATIONS ACROSS THE STATE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Agriculture to convene a task force to clarify and coordinate agricultural-based commercial support of bona fide farming operations across the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting; Hawaii Farm Bureau; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Kauai Kunana Dairy; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that bona fide farming operations should be able to generate additional revenue from commercial activities accessory and secondary to agricultural production without burdensome regulation. Your Committee further finds that "bona fide farming operation" and "small farm" are not clearly defined terms and the lack of definitions makes regulation of agricultural-based commercial operations accessory to bona fide



farming operations difficult for the counties. Additionally, many regulations are particularly burdensome for small-scale farmers.

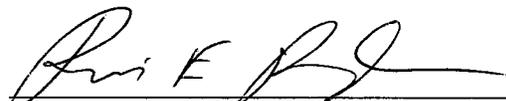
Your Committee acknowledges the concerns of the Department of Agriculture regarding the lack of resources necessary to effectively convene a task force consisting of membership from across the State. Your Committee therefore supports any alternative means to achieving the goals of this measure without the need to formally convene a task force. Your Committee recommends passage of this measure to facilitate further discussion of ways to identify specific barriers to legitimate agricultural-based commercial operations and find practical solutions to assist farmers and the counties through the approval process for agricultural-based commercial operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Rewriting a legislative finding for clarity;
- (2) Correcting statutory references to section 205-2(d)(15), Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (3) Amending legislative findings to use the term "agricultural-based commercial operations" throughout for consistency;
- (4) Amending its title for consistency; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 187, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1.

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



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RUSSELL E. RUDERMAN, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture**  
**AGL**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HCR 187, HD1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AGL</b>	Date: <b>4/16/15</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
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (C)	X			
RIVIERE, Gil (VC)	X			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne				X
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
THIELEN, Laura H.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
SLOM, Sam	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Recommendation:    
 Adopted    
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  


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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes