

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 591

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05 2015

RE: S.B. No. 434  
S.D. 2

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 434, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATED TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to update the State's agricultural planning statute to add the growth and development of traditional Hawaiian farming systems and traditional Hawaiian crops, as well as the growth and development of small-scale farms, as agricultural objectives of the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Taro Security and Purity Task Force; College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Hawai'i Green Growth; King Kamehameha Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo; Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club; Hawaii Farm to School and School Garden Hui; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and twenty-eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from two individuals.

Article XI, section 3, of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i requires the Legislature to provide standards and criteria to increase Hawai'i's agricultural self-sufficiency.



Your Committee finds that prioritizing traditional agricultural techniques such as traditional Hawaiian farming is increasingly viewed as good policy. The United Nations Commission on Trade and Development urges nation states to support the development of sustainable small-scale farms and traditional farming systems to achieve food security, particularly in light of climate change. Supporting traditional farming is also consistent with the recommendations of the Taro Security and Purity Task Force's 2010 legislative report *E ola hou ke kalo; ho'i hou ka 'āina lē'ia: The taro lives; abundance returns to the land*. The report emphasizes the need to invest in traditional farming and crops to perpetuate culture and to support disaster preparedness and food security in our islands.

Your Committee supports the practice of traditional Hawaiian farming as a means to promote Hawaii's agricultural self-sufficiency. Your Committee also finds that traditional Hawaiian farming systems still play a critical role in Hawai'i and should be encouraged in order to promote greater self-sufficiency, crop diversity, and food security. Moreover, traditional Hawaiian crops like kalo, 'uala (sweet potato), limu (various seaweeds), 'awa, hō'i'o (large native fern), and 'olena (turmeric) that were cultivated using these traditional Hawaiian farming techniques continue to be important agricultural products for food, medicine, and cultural practices today.

Your Committee has amended this measure by 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 Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 434, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 434, S.D. 2.

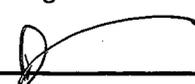
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Water and Land,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LAURA H. THIELEN, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water and Land**  
**WTL**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 434, CDI	HWN/AGL, WTL	02.25.15		
<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
THIELEN, Laura H. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5			2
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes