

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2098**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2240

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.B. No. 2240 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to make an
appropriation to the Department of Health to hire more vector
control employees and reestablish a vector control branch.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Health; Department of Defense; Hawaii
Emergency Management Agency; Department of Emergency Management,
City and County of Honolulu; Big Island Invasive Species
Committee; Kauai Invasive Species Committee; Oahu Invasive Species
Committee; Hawaii Farm Bureau; and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that vector control is necessary to
control the spread of animals that have the potential to carry
disease, from rodents to insects, including mosquitoes. However,
the Department of Health currently has no vector control branch,
and its vector control unit suffered severe funding cuts several
years ago.

Your Committee further finds that the current outbreak of
dengue fever and growing global concern over the spread of zika
virus necessitate an appropriation to the Department of Health to
hire more vector control employees and reestablish a vector
control branch. By fully reestablishing the vector control

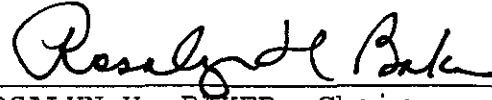
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branch, the State will be able to more effectively manage virus outbreaks and other newly emerging public health threats.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2240 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce, Consumer
Protection, and Health,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



