

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **86**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB - 9 2017

RE: S.B. No. 781

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 781 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the Agricultural 2030 Investment Program and Farm to Plate Program in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Center for Food Safety, Hawaii Farm Bureau, Maui County Farm Bureau, Farm lovers Farmers Market, and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that there are historic and recent threats to the future of agriculture in the State, including the loss of sugar and pineapple plantations and dairy farms, rising energy and feed costs, the volatility of commodity markets, mainland and global competition, and climate change. There are also many signs of expansion and opportunity, especially for diversified and specialty niche farms, including organic farm operations. Your Committee finds that greater investment in agriculture will increase economic development, create jobs, improve access to healthy food, and improve biosecurity.

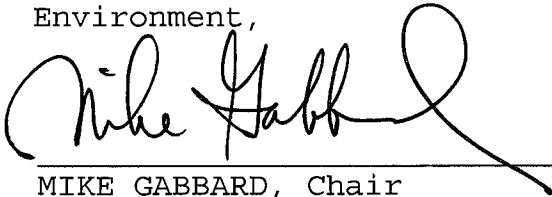
Your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Extending the date by which the Department of Agriculture must create a strategic plan for agricultural economic development to December 1, 2018; and
- (2) 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 and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 781, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 781, 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,

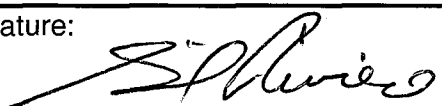


MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB781	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: Feb 3, 2017		
<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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RIVIERE, Gil (VC)	X			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				X
RHOADS, Karl	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				X
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes