

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

484

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2017

RE: S.B. No. 808

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 808 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattleman's Council; Local Food Coalition; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawaii Coffee Association; Ka'u Soil and Water Conservation District; East Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District; East and West Kauai Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Kauai County Farm Bureau; Waiakea Soil and Water Conservation District; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts, through the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), assists government agencies in identifying and implementing culturally sensitive projects and practices to ensure the protection of Hawaii's environment. The SWCDs bring



significant financial resources to Hawaii to improve farm practices, reduce erosion, improve water quality, fight invasive species, improve public safety, protect property, conserve water, and strengthen the economy. SWCDs also provide education and community support for conservation awareness, and assist each county in reviewing county grading permits and conservation plans. The SWCD Program does not have a base budget appropriation, and funding is required in order for the SWCDs to continue their activities, which undoubtedly benefit the people of Hawaii.

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. 808 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 Water and Land,

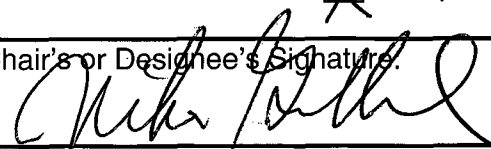


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 808	WTL, WAM	02-15-2017		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.				✓
TOTAL	4	—	—	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
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