

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3457

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 05 2018

RE: S.C.R. No. 167
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.C.R. No. 167 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE BOARD OF
AGRICULTURE TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE DETAILING A
PLAN TO IMPROVE THE IMPORT PERMIT PROCESS FOR ALL
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Board of Agriculture to submit a report to the Legislature
detailing a plan to improve the import permit process for all
agricultural commodities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the
Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on
this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the Plant Quarantine Branch of the
Department of Agriculture is tasked with preventing the
introduction and spread of harmful pests and diseases into the
State by regulating domestic import, performing border
inspections, and facilitating post border detection and control of
agricultural pests. The Plant Quarantine Branch also administers
the import permit program to control the importation of plants,
insects, microorganisms, and non-domestic animals. However,



concerns have been raised about the Branch's existing administrative rules and import permit process. This measure therefore requests the Board of Agriculture to develop a plan to improve its import permit process for all agricultural commodities to ensure that the process reflects current industry conditions, needs, and best practices.

Your Committee has heard concerns from the Department of Agriculture that this measure requests the Board of Agriculture to implement risk-based assessments for all import categories, which may eliminate the specificity in the review process and could impose unnecessary restrictions on certain users. Your Committee understands these concerns and notes that a general review and update of the import permit process by the Board of Agriculture may be more appropriate.

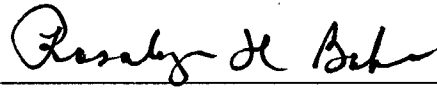
Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Board of Agriculture is requested to review and update the import permit process for all agricultural commodities and submit a report to the Legislature, prior to the next legislative session, recommending any required legislative changes to the import permit process, rather than requesting the Board to submit a report to the Legislature that includes specific changes to the current import permit process;
- (2) Updating its title; and
- (3) 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 Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 167, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 167, S.D. 1.



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

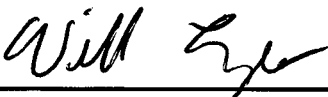


ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
CPH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SUR 167	AEN, CPH	4/3/18		
<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
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	X			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)				X
CHANG, Stanley	X			
ESPERO, Will	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les	X			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				X
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				X
TOTAL	4			3
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