

Personal Testimony Presented before the  
House Committee on Agriculture  
March 7, 2008  
10:45 AM  
by  
Wayne Nishijima

HCR 116/ HR 99

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AGRICULTURAL DIAGNOSTIC SERVICE CENTER, IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES, TO CARRY OUT A SURVEY OF INFORMATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, AND ASSESS WHETHER THE HAWAII AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION CENTER CAN MEET THE INFORMATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Brower, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Wayne Nishijima, and I am the Associate Dean and Associate Director for Cooperative Extension, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I am pleased to provide personal testimony on HCR116/HR 99. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawai'i or CTAHR.

I strongly support this resolution because an assessment of the information needs of the agricultural industry and how the Hawai'i Agricultural Information Center can meet their needs are an important first step in addressing the issue of providing timely, accurate and comprehensive information to the modern day farmer so they compete successfully in today's global economy.

By first getting stakeholder feedback and input, the informational needs of the farmer can be used to develop the concept of the Hawaii Agricultural Information Center so that is more relevant, useful, timely, and simple.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Personal Testimony Presented before the  
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March 7  
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Raymond Uchida

HCR 116/ HR 99

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AGRICULTURAL DIAGNOSTIC SERVICE CENTER, IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES, TO CARRY OUT A SURVEY OF INFORMATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, AND ASSESS WHETHER THE HAWAII AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION CENTER CAN MEET THE INFORMATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

Chair Clift Tsuji, Vice Chair Tom Brower, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Raymond Uchida, and I am a Manager/Director of the UH-ADSC and a County Administrator-Oahu County with the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I am pleased to provide a written testimony on HCR116/ HR 99. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii nor CTAHR.

On behalf of UH-ADSC in CTAHR, I strongly support this resolution as it clearly supports the Agricultural Community of Hawaii. Presently, the UH-ADSC uses the Fertility Advice and Consulting System (FACS) to provide fertilizer recommendation to the agricultural industry as well as to homeowners. By incorporating the database that will be provided by the Hawaii Agricultural Information Center (HAIC), we will be able to provide Hawaii's farmers with a more complete fertilizer recommendation, which will not only improve productivity, but will also be environmentally friendly. The recommendation will also provide weather data, like long-term rainfall and temperature pattern, which is critical in seasonal crop farming.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Personal Testimony Presented before the  
Committee on Agriculture  
March 7, 2008  
10:45AM  
by  
Russell Yost

House Concurrent Resolution 116, *“Requesting the University of Hawai`i Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center, in consultation with other public and private entities, to carry out a survey of information needs of Hawaii's agricultural industry, and assess Whether the Hawaii Agricultural Information Center can meet the information needs of Hawaii's agricultural industry.”*

Chair Clift Tsuji, Vice Chair Tom Brower, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Russell Yost, and I am a Vice-President of the MobileSoft International, LLP software development company and also Professor of Soil Science in the Department of Tropical Plant and Soil Science, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), with the University of Hawai`i at Manoa. I am pleased to provide personal testimony on HCR 116. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawai`i nor CTAHR.

On behalf of Mobilesoft International, LLP, I strongly support this resolution as it clearly outlines the challenges to agriculture faced by producers, growers, clients, and all those otherwise associated with Agricultural life style and Enterprise. We are, today, in the information age and in order for our Agriculture to compete and succeed we need to provide the right information at the right time and at the right location. The Hawaii Agricultural Information Center concept advances us in this direction and provides an opportunity for Hawaii to be in the forefront of the application of Information Technology in Agriculture. The HAIC concept is one of the first to move towards providing site-specific information to clients rather than leave it to them to search out the necessary information. This concept will revolutionize and help deal with the current plethora of websites that are there for the searching if the client has time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.