

SB 2850

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 5, 2008

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENATE BILL NO. 2850

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Transportation supports this bill.

S.B. No. 2850 would, in part, add new language to Chapter 150A, HRS, to establish a biosecurity program and require cargo carriers to prepare and submit manifests of cargo shipped into the State or between islands to the Department of Agriculture.

We believe the establishment of a biosecurity program will provide the State with an important tool to control the spread of invasive species. As an operator of airport and harbor facilities in the State, the Department stands ready to work with the Department of Agriculture in its implementation of actions to achieve the objectives of this bill.

**HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION
2343 ROSE STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96819**

FEBRUARY 5, 2008

**HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
&
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2850
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.**

Chair Tokuda and Menor and Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan Takemoto, Executive Director, of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, which is the largest non-profit general agriculture organization representing approximately 1,600 farm and ranch family members statewide.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation supports SB 2850, which establishes statutory provisions on and appropriates funds for the DOA's biosecurity program.

Invasive species have become one of the most devastating problems impacting Hawaii's agricultural industry. Invasive species and the havoc to Hawaii's environment and economy are well noted in the demise of the native wili wili tress, the recent infestation of imported Christmas trees, coqui frog, and others pests and diseases that chronically devastates our agricultural crops.

A appropriations to fund the DOA's biosecurity program is essential to fully execute a comprehensive strategy to address the increasing amount of invasive species entering the state. This measure will hopefully allow DOA the ability to hire additional staff, resources to set the system of inspections, and the facilities necessary to inspect imported cargo into the state.

Thank you for allowing us to testify on this measure.



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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
AND
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

SENATE BILL 2850

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

February 5, 2008

Chairs Tokuda and Menor and Members of the Committees:

My name is Stephanie Whalen. I am President and Research Director of the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC). I am testifying today on behalf of the center, our research and support staff, and our members and clients.

HARC strongly supports of Senate Bill 2850 Relating to Biosecurity

It will facilitate inspections to have descriptions on the manifests of cargo shipped into the State and between the islands and availability of these manifests to the department prior to shipping.. This will improve the efficiency of inspections and reduce the chances of noxious materials entering the state and moving between islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.