

TESTIMONY
GM515
LATE

Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Water, Land,
Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
April 3, 2009
Hawaii Board of Agriculture

LATE TESTIMONY

Chair Hee, Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs. I am honored to be nominated for the Hawaii Board of Agriculture and I thank you for the opportunity to present background about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

I was born and raised in the agricultural rich community of Kula, Maui. I have lived on a farm all of my life and am a fourth generation farmer. I graduated from Maui High School and obtained a Bachelors Degree in Agricultural Business Management from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

I started my career working for the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association for two years and joined the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources in 1976 as an extension agent, where I worked for 28 years. I found that being a part-time farmer and working for CTAHR brought invaluable experience where I could look at both sides of the coin, as a government worker and as a farmer. I took over the management of the Hashimoto Persimmon farm when my parents retired in 2000. I retired in 2004 and worked full-time on the persimmon farm where we have 500 trees on 5 acres of land.

In October of 2007, Mayor Charmaine Tavares asked me to be her Agriculture Specialist. I accepted the offer because I knew I could make a difference because of my strong agricultural background and connections in the agriculture community, including the Farm Bureau.

Again, I am honored to be nominated to become a member of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I want to keep agriculture viable. I want to see sugar and pineapple survive. Most importantly, I want to see diversified agriculture thrive. Many third and fourth generation farmers are quitting because of the hard work, low profitability and the strict regulations that needs to be followed. Everyone talks about sustainability but we need agriculture to be viable to be able to become sustainable.

Agriculture has many challenges and I am up to the task of keeping agriculture viable. I have the experience, knowledge, and background to make a difference. I ask for your support on my nomination to sit on the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Thank you.

LATE TESTIMONY

Personal Testimony Presented before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs
April 3, 2009 at 2:45 p.m.
Governor's Message No. 515
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the
Board of Agriculture
Gubernatorial Nominee CLARK S. HASHIMOTO
Term to Expire: 06/30/2013
by
Andrew G. Hashimoto

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Hashimoto, and I am the Dean and Director of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am pleased to provide personal testimony to the decision-making process on GM 515 for the consideration and confirmation of Clark S. Hashimoto as a member of the Board of Agriculture. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii or CTAHR. Although we share the same last name, we are not related.

I am in very strong support for Clark Hashimoto's appointment to the Board of Agriculture.

Clark retired as an Assistant County Extension Agent for CTAHR in our Maui County Extension Office with service from 1976 until 2004, during which time, he also served admirably as the Interim Maui County Administrator for over five and a half years. He is currently an Agricultural Specialist for the County of Maui.

Clark has been a long-time active member of the agricultural community on Maui. As a CTAHR extension agent, he developed educational programs and helped countless farmers, homeowners, school children, businesses, and government agencies on agricultural matters. He has an educational background in agriculture, and moreover, acquired knowledge in farming and marketing, having been raised on his family's Kula farm and working on its daily activities.

Clark's involvement with community groups and businesses include assisting the Maui Farm Bureau, Maui County Fair, Maui County Board of Water Supply, and the Board of Directors of the Kula Agricultural Park. He has shown managerial and leadership skills in these groups and participation in many other community, church, and school activities.

Because of Clark's vast experience, his knowledge of practices and regulations on agricultural issues and resources, and his personal traits as an extremely good listener with a selfless attitude of public service, I have no doubt that Clark will be an effective, cooperative, and contributing member of the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in behalf of Clark S. Hashimoto's confirmation to the Board of Agriculture.



Maui Flower Growers Association

www.mauiflower.com

LATE TESTIMONY

Board of Directors

President

Matt Keiley

Na Pua O Helani

Vice President

Lonnie Hardesty

Proteas of Hawaii

Treasurer

Linda Puppolo

Mind-Eze Business Services

Secretary

Terrie Roberts

Sunset Tropical

Directors

Dawn L. Lono

Na Pua `Ohana

Krista Ballantyne

Hana Tropicals

Carver Wilson

Maui Floral

Patty Davis

Davis Farm

Lorrie Bolte

No Ka Oi Protea Farm

Executive Director

Cheryl Ambrozic

TESTIMONY

GM 515: BOARD OF AGRICULTURE GUBERNATORIAL

NOMINEE CLARK HASHIMOTO

April 2, 2009

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

Maui Flower Growers' Association (MFGA) is in strong support GM 515, seeking the confirmation of Mr. Clark Hashimoto to the Board of Agriculture.

Having worked with Mr. Clark Hashimoto in his capacity as Agricultural Coordinator for the County of Maui, I can say he is extremely helpful and willing to work with all Ag sectors to help find solutions to the problems facing Hawai`i's Ag producers today. He works diligently to advance the interest of agriculture in Maui County. He exemplifies the model of where we want agriculture in Hawaii to go.

Mr. Hashimoto's wide range of knowledge and experience will be invaluable to the many issues that will come before the Board. MCFB respectfully urges your strong support towards the confirmation of Mr. Hashimoto to the Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo.

Cheryl Ambrozic
MFGA Executive Director



Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY

GM 515: BOARD OF AGRICULTURE GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE

CLARK HASHIMOTO

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Maui County Farm Bureau, and all of our County Chapter Farm Bureaus is in strong support GM 515, seeking the confirmation of Mr. Clark Hashimoto to the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Clark Hashimoto is uniquely qualified for the position. He is well versed from the technical perspective, from his long tenure as an extension agent. The theories are grounded in reality as he is also an active farmer associated with the Hashimoto Persimmon Farm. He is also an entrepreneur, who together with his wife Jackie have expanded from being a fresh fruit operation to one that sells many value added products ranging from dried fruit to jams and even persimmon scone mixes made from scratch. While serving as an Extension Agent, Mr. Hashimoto also served as an advisor to Maui County Farm Bureau, attending monthly meetings as a volunteer and providing guidance to the organization. He always participated in the various functions whether it be organizing conferences or chopping vegetables for stir fry. He has demonstrated to be a hands on person. And, in addition, even as he retired from many years as an Extension Agent and later as Acting Administrator, Mr. Hashimoto accepted the job of Agricultural Coordinator for the County of Maui ..a position he holds today. He works diligently to advance the interest of agriculture in Maui County. He exemplifies the model of where we want agriculture in Hawaii to go.

Mr. Hashimoto's wide range of knowledge and experience will be invaluable to the many issues that will come before the Board. HFBF respectfully urges your strong support towards the confirmation of Mr. Hashimoto to the Board of Agriculture. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 4:21 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: craig@paradiseflowers.com
Subject: Testimony for GM515 on 4/3/2009 2:45:00 PM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WTL 4/3/2009 2:45:00 PM GM515

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Craig & Teena Rasmussen
Organization: Paradise Flower Farms, Inc.
Address: 331 Ihe Place Kula, HI 96790
Phone: 808-878-2591
E-mail: craig@paradiseflowers.com
Submitted on: 4/2/2009

Comments:

We want to express our full support for the appointment of Clark Hashimoto to the Board of Agriculture. We have known Clark for 30 years, first as a County Extension agent, then as a fellow farmer, and long time supporter for Farm Bureau. Clark is exceptionally well qualified for this position because he is a farmer, and has also worked in the government arena. He will bring years of practical experience to the board and a unique understanding of what it takes to be a farmer in Hawaii. Clark is a humble and thoughtful man who works well in any group and provides excellent insight and problem solving skills.

TESTIMONY
GM515
LATE
(END)