

**LINDA LINGLE**  
Governor



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

**SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**DUANE K. OKAMOTO**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
AND  
AGRICULTURE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009  
10:00 A.M.  
ROOM 309**

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8**

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 12**

**REQUESTING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO PROVIDE FEDERAL AID TO  
ASSIST AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS IN VOG-IMPACTED AREAS IN MEETING THEIR  
WATER NEEDS.**

Chairpersons Hanohano and Tsuji and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Concurrent Resolution No. 8 and House Resolution No. 12 which seeks federal aid from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to meet the water needs of agricultural operations impacted by the effects of vog. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) supports the resolutions.

We wish to note that at this time there is an outstanding grant request to the Bureau of Reclamation to provide funds for water hauling for use similar to that described in the resolutions. HDOA will continue to work with our partners in the Federal, State and County agencies, non-profit organizations, UHCTAHR, and affected farmers and ranchers to address problems caused by the vog.