

GM 579

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

JAMES J. NAKATANI
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

**TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2011
2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 579
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ALAN T. TAKEMOTO,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2015.**

Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Agriculture is in strong support of the nomination of Alan Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) Board of Directors.

Mr. Takemoto's experience in the agriculture industry spans over the last 13 years. He has served in sales and marketing positions, government affairs positions, and is currently the Community Affairs Manager for Monsanto Company, where he oversees the community's outreach efforts and analyzes and develops legislation that affects the company. Prior to his position with Monsanto Company, Mr. Takemoto served as the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation for four years, where he displayed his strong ability to be a lead advocate for Hawaii's agriculture industry.

Mr. Takemoto's extensive experience combined with his dedication to the agriculture industry proves that he has the character, skills and knowledge to serve as a board member for the ADC. If confirmed, he will undoubtedly continue to serve the agriculture community with integrity.





STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF ALFREDO LEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE**

Thursday, April 14, 2011
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 579
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ALAN T. TAKEMOTO,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2015**

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) is in support of the nomination of Alan T. Takemoto to the ADC board of directors.

Mr. Takemoto has spent most of his career dedicated to the support of Hawaii agriculture. Currently he is the Community Affairs Manager for Monsanto Company in Hawaii, one of the largest agriculture employers in the state. Prior to joining Monsanto he was the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB) the last four of his 16 year-long career there. While working at HFB, Alan's reputation evolved as being a tireless advocate for Hawaii agriculture,

becoming a well recognized face and voice at the legislature and in the local media.

Mr. Takemoto currently sits on the City and County of Honolulu's Agricultural Development Task Force. Prior to that, he served as a member of the City and County of Honolulu's Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission, and sat on the Board of Advisor's of the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources.

ADC is very fortunate to have someone with Mr. Takemoto's experience in advocacy, public relations, management, and strong agriculture background to join our board.

Thank you.

nishihara5 - Randy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 8:56 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for GM579 on 4/14/2011 2:45:00 PM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Testimony for AGL 4/14/2011 2:45:00 PM GM579

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Alan Gottlieb
Organization: Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:



Hawaii Agriculture Research Center

Administration: P.O. Box 100, Kunia, HI 96759

Ph: 808-621-1350/Fax: 808-621-1359

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

GM 579

Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation

Alan T. Takemoto

April 14, 2011

Chairman Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

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

HARC strongly supports the Confirmation of Alan T. Takemoto as a Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Alan has served the agriculture community for many years. He has been a member of numerous state and county committees as the agricultural representative. There is little question over his breadth of knowledge about the industry especially during its recent decades of transition.

HARC is pleased to learn that Alan is willing to serve on this organization's board: the organization set up to assist in the transition of agriculture from two commodities engaged in large scale plantation-style farming to a more diverse small scale multi-commodity farming.

There is no doubt that Alan will add breadth to the leadership and vision of ADC to improve agriculture's contribution to the state's economy as well as to help in maintaining the beauty of its landscapes through productive agriculture operations. Alan has shown his commitment and persistence in supporting the viability of agriculture in Hawaii through some of its most trying times.

HARC respectfully requests that you confirm Alan T. Takemoto's appointment as Director of the Board of Agribusiness Development corporation.

Thank you for this opportunity to support Alan and agriculture.

nishihara5 - Randy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2011 2:10 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: luly.unemori2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for GM579 on 4/14/2011 2:45:00 PM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Testimony for AGL 4/14/2011 2:45:00 PM GM579

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Luly Unemori
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: luly.unemori2@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 4/8/2011

Comments:

Dear Senator Nishihara and honorable Committee Members,

I first met Alan Takemoto when he was with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and I was helping out at an agricultural event on Maui. Since then, I have had the privilege of interacting with him from time to time on various agricultural-related activities and efforts.

Alan's passion, experience and knowledge about Hawaii agriculture are tremendous. He sees the "big picture" of agriculture statewide. He knows what farmers need in order to raise their crops, and how those products are sold and distributed to the customers. He understands the critical role that the State and government agencies play in supporting the industry. And, he willingly devotes long hours and an incredible amount of energy to help move Hawaii agriculture forward.

I was delighted when I heard he had been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors for the Agribusiness Development Corporation. He is a very worthwhile candidate, and I humbly ask for your support.

Thank you.

Kauai County Farm Bureau

Affiliated with Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation

P.O. Box 3895 • Lihue HI 96766

808-337-9944 (phone/fax) 808-652-3217 (cell)

kcfb@hawaiiantel.net

The Voice of Kauai's Agriculture



April 10, 2011

ATTN: Committee on Agriculture
Senator Nishihara (Chair) Vice Chair Kahele
and Members of the Committee

RE: GM 579
Testimony of Kauai County Farm Bureau in SUPPORT

HEARING DATE: April 14, 2011 – 2:45pm, Conf room 229

Kauai County Farm Bureau on behalf of our member farm and ranch families, and affiliated with Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, supports confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Alan T. Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Prior to Alan's current position with Monsanto, he served as Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, managing the day to day affairs of the state office and working with the grassroots leadership of the Farm Bureau on many regulatory and legislative issues. Alan demonstrated strong leadership and decisionmaking in that capacity, and has developed an understanding of agriculture's diverse commodities and needs across the state.

It was a pleasure working with Alan over the years, and we believe he has the sufficient knowledge, experience, and commitment to agriculture to make a strong contribution in this new capacity.

Please support his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Roy Oyama
President – Kauai County Farm Bureau
Oyama_farm@yahoo.com

CC: Melissa McFerrin
Executive Administrator – Kauai County Farm Bureau
kcfb@hawaiiantel.net

PAUL T. OSHIRO
822 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April 14, 2011

Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture:

SUBJECT: GM 579, Alan T. Takemoto, Gubernatorial Nominee
Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development
Corporation

The purpose of this written testimony is to support the confirmation of the Gubernatorial Nomination of Alan Takemoto as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

I have been acquainted with Mr. Takemoto for a number of years, first meeting him during his employment as the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. In this position, Mr. Takemoto utilized his vast knowledge of Hawaii's multi-faceted agricultural industry to very actively and ably lead and nurture the continued development and growth of this organization. He was very effective in the area of legislative advocacy, serving as the lead advocate for the passage and enactment of Hawaii's Important Agricultural Lands Law in 2008. In addition, his leadership and community outreach efforts has greatly enhanced the public's awareness and understanding of Hawaii's agricultural industry.

Mr. Takemoto is very approachable, pleasant, and a tireless worker. His dedication and commitment are positive attributes that will be of great benefit to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

It is based on these observations that I support Mr. Takemoto's confirmation as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.



ALEXANDER & BALDWIN, INC.

MEREDITH J. CHING
Senior Vice President

822 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
P.O. Box 3440
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801-3440
www.alexanderbaldwin.com
Tel (808) 525-6669
Fax (808) 525-6677
email: mching@abinc.com

April 14, 2011

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture
State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture:

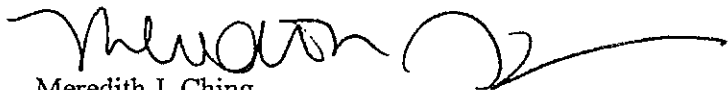
RE: GM 579, Confirmation of Alan T. Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation

I am writing to provide my full personal support of the confirmation of Alan T. Takemoto to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC). I believe the ADC, and all of Hawaii's residents, would be very fortunate to have someone with the knowledge and experience that Alan possesses, serving as a volunteer on this board and helping to further the future of agriculture in Hawaii.

I have known Alan for many years and worked closely with him in his former role as the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau. I have found him to be an informed, articulate, passionate and effective advocate for the agricultural industry in Hawaii. His skills and knowledge—of both the people and the issues—will be an invaluable asset to ADC.

Agriculture continues to be at a critical juncture in Hawaii, faced with many challenges and also many opportunities. But these opportunities will not be easy ones, requiring proactive and cohesive efforts on the part of Hawaii's agricultural industry. With a more varied profile, it has become a greater challenge for the agricultural industry to pursue and promote common goals. I believe that Alan can play a big part in pulling the industry together, which is absolutely necessary to moving forward.

Please support the confirmation of Alan Takemoto to the ADC.


Meredith J. Ching



Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Sixth Legislature, 2011
State of Hawai'i

Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Thursday, April 14, 2011 2:45 P.M.

GM579 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alan T. Takemoto, for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

Senate Committee on Agriculture
Honorable Chairperson Senator Clarence K. Nishihara,
Honorable Vice Chairperson Senator Gilbert Kahele
And
Committee Members

Supporting confirmation of Alan T. Takemoto to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the pro-tem president for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

We would like to declare our support for the confirmation of Alan T. Takemoto to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Working with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (and becoming Executive Director) Mr. Takemoto has the experience and ability to serve and be an asset as a Director of the Board for the Agribusiness Development Corporation and has attained a familiarity with regulatory issues. His current work at a large multinational business has provided him with the ability to see the different stages of agriculture: state, national and international and will provide a great benefit to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

If you have any other questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,

Eric S. Tanouye



Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery Association

Pro-Tem President
Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

CONFIRMATION OF ALAN T. TAKEMOTO
FOR
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GM 579

APRIL 2011

DEAR CHAIRPERSON NISHIHARA and Members of the Committee:

VERY STRONG SUPPORT.

My name is Loren Mochida, Director of Agriculture Operations at W. H. Shipman, Limited in Keaau on the Big Island. We are a local kamaaina-family owned management company that is engaged in Agriculture and Commercial/Industrial development and leasing. We currently lease lands to over 125 individually growers at W.H. Shipman, Ltd.

I am in **very strong support** of the confirmation of Mr. Alan T. Takemoto for the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Along with his strong leadership skills, his organizational development has been exceptionally outstanding.

Mr. Takemoto's diversified experience has provided the agriculture industry copious support as a former Executive Director for the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and presently as a Community Affairs Manager at Monsanto. Mr. Takemoto's outstanding efforts and support in the agriculture industry is highly recognized. It is with personal confidence that Mr. Takemoto will be a dedicated agriculture person on the Board of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide support for the confirmation of Mr. Alan T. Takemoto as a Director.



TESTIMONY

RE: GM579: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAN T. TAKEMOTO, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

Maui County Farm Bureau on behalf of our commercial farm and ranch families and organizations strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Alan Takemoto to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Takemoto has a very extensive background in agriculture, serving many years in various positions in Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. Before leaving the organization, he was instrumental in building the organization as a true Voice of Agriculture, respected by the community. He demonstrated a unique ability to work with people of various points of views, with patience and a willingness to listen ... a characteristic often lacking in this day where there is a tendency for people to place their opinions over all others. He showed a capacity to balance the needs of all to reach good decisions.

Many have questioned the direction of ADC. Mr. Takemoto has heard the concerns within the industry and will use this knowledge to move the organization to meet its' original intent. Agriculture is at a critical point. It needs leaders such as Mr. Takemoto to make it the important part of Hawaii that everyone talks about. We need leaders that will make it happen.

We respectfully request your support of Mr. Takemoto to the Board of Directors of ADC. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this matter.

Warren Watanabe

Executive Director, MCFB

**Mikilua Poultry Farm Inc
1612-A Kilohe Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819**

The Senate
Committee on Agriculture
April 14, 2011


GM 579
Alan Takemoto

Chairperson Nishihara, Vice Chair Kahele and members of the Committee:

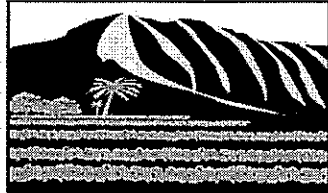
I strongly support the nomination of Alan Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation. I have known Alan during his many years with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation as Administrative Assistant and Executive Director. Alan has a vast experience with all the issues facing Hawaiian Diversified Agriculture and its interaction with all levels of government. Alan has a great passion and dedication to promote sustainability and protection our important agricultural lands as stated in our State Constitution. He will serve the State of Hawaii and Hawaiian Diversified Agriculture with the highest integrity.

I respectfully ask for you approval of Alan Takemoto, nominee to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Sincerely,



Phyllis S. Shimabukuro-Geiser
President



Nalo Farms

WAIMANALO, HAWAII

April 12, 2011

Re: GM579, Hearing Date: April 14, 2011

Dear Chair Nishihara and members of the Agricultural Committee,

My name is Dean Okimoto, and I am President of Nalo Farms and past President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. I have had the great pleasure of working with Alan when he was Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau for 5 years, and previous to that as the lobbyist for the Farm Bureau.

Alan is one of the most dependable, integrity oriented, and hard working people that I know. Over those years, we would not have been able to accomplish many of the goals of the Farm Bureau. During his tenure as ED, we were able to pass the important AG Lands bill which for 27 years previous to 2005, was mandated by the State Constitution. We were able to secure millions of dollars for ag research during his tenure, and in his last year we secured a million dollars, which agriculture never got before. He was always willing to listen to the Farm Bureau constituents, and always acted on their concerns. The Farmers Markets at KCC, Kailua, and Mililani, were started during his tenure, and I never had to worry about any of the work being done. He made it my pleasure to serve the Farm Bureau because of his diligence and the countless hours of hard work that he put in.

Alan's passion for agriculture, even though he is not a farmer, is matchless. He has a deep appreciation for agriculture and an understanding of agriculture that is hard to find. Match this with his work ethic and integrity and you will not find a better person to serve on the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board he is always willing to help the ag community for the overall betterment of Hawaii agriculture.

I strongly recommend Alan Takemoto for this board position on the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean J. Okimoto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dean J. Okimoto
President, Nalo Farms, Inc.



JOY GOLD UNLIMITED

Working with you to achieve your organization's mission and public policy goals

GM 579, Alan Takemoto for ADC Board of Directors
Senate AGL Hearing
Thursday, April 14, 2011 – 2:45 pm
Room 229

Position: Strong Support

Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Agriculture Committee:

My name is Joy Gold, owner and President of Joy Gold Unlimited, which provides government relations services as well as services to nonprofit organizations such as new member board orientation, project and grants management and report writing.

During the last ten years, I have worked with Alan Takemoto through my work with various agricultural commodity groups, and the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). I have observed that Mr. Takemoto is well respected by many of the sectors and producers of Hawaii's agriculture industry. He has considerable knowledge about challenges facing the industry such as production, land, water, pests, plant diseases and other agricultural issues. More importantly, he can facilitate balanced discussions and work towards solutions with policy makers, administrators and producers.

Many of the community-based and county organizations recognize Alan's valued contributions. He continues to volunteer with the HFBF and has served as a member of the Honolulu City & County's Agricultural Development Task Force, and Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission; and the UH-CTAHR Board of Advisors.

Alan Takemoto will contribute much to the Agribusiness Development Corporation's Board of Directors, and thus, to Hawaii's agricultural industry.

Your support of his confirmation is needed, and appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Union Plaza
1136 Union Mall, Ste. 403
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

P.O. Box 88555
Honolulu, Hawaii
96830-8555

Phone: 808-526-3770
Fax: 808-540-0415
Email: joy@joygoldunlimited.com

Visit www.joygoldunlimited.com

Oahu Farm Bureau
2343 Rose St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture
State Capitol Building, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair Kahele, and Members of the Committee:

I am sending this testimony to express the **strong support** of the Oahu Farm Bureau for the nomination of Alan Takemoto to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Mr. Takemoto was born and raised in Hawaii, and has been an active and committed supporter of Hawaii agriculture throughout his career.

A graduate of the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii's leadership program, Mr. Takemoto served in several positions with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and became its Executive Director in 2004. In this position, he dealt with the many issues that affect farmers and ranchers throughout the State. He has also served as a member of the Board of Advisors to the U.H. College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, a board member of the Hawaii Beef Industry Council, and a member of the Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission. Mr. Takemoto has moved on to a position in the private agricultural industry, but remains an active member of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and the Oahu Farm Bureau.

Alan Takemoto's intimate knowledge of Hawaii's agricultural industry, and his track record of support for Hawaii's farmers and ranchers, clearly qualify him to serve on the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. We urge you to vote for his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Frederick M. Mencher
for Grant Hamachi, President

Brian Miyamoto
1942 S. Beretania Street #5
Honolulu, HI 96826

APRIL 14, 2011
HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON GM 579

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAN T. TAKEMOTO

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

My name is Brian Miyamoto and I am writing in **strong support** for the confirmation of Alan Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board of Directors, At-Large, Oahu Director seat.

Mr. Takemoto has an extensive background and understanding of Hawaii's agricultural industry resulting from his experience as the former Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and his current position as the Community Affairs Manager of Monsanto Company Hawaii.

In addition to his experience with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and Monsanto, Mr. Takemoto also has served as a member of the Board of Advisors to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Beef Industry Council, and as a member of the Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission. Mr. Takemoto currently is a member of the City and County of Honolulu's Agricultural Development Task Force and serves on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association and the South Oahu County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Takemoto's first hand experience and familiarity with local farming practices and record of public service makes him a perfect candidate as the At-Large Director on the Agribusiness Development Corporation's Board of Directors. I am pleased to support the confirmation of Alan Takemoto. I hope that you will give Mr. Takemoto's confirmation to this position serious consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.



Hawaii Farm Bureau

F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Phone: (808) 848-2074 • Neighbor-Islands: (800) 482-1272
Fax: (808) 848-1921 • Email: info@hfbf.org
www.hfbf.org

APRIL 14, 2011
HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON GM 579

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the
Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAN T. TAKEMOTO

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF), the largest non-profit agriculture advocacy organization in the state with approximately 1,600 farm and ranch family members is in strong support of the confirmation of Alan Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board of Directors, At-Large, Oahu Director seat

Mr. Takemoto worked for HFBF for over 16 years, most recently serving as the Executive Director for 6 years. As the HFBF Executive Director, Mr. Takemoto was responsible for the overall operations of the largest statewide agricultural organization, coordinated all lobbying activities, oversaw all community and public affairs activities, and addressed on-going issues that affected Hawaii's agricultural industry.

Mr. Takemoto is respected for his impressive credentials as an agriculture leader, having served on numerous agriculture boards and through his involvement as a member of many agriculture organizations. He has served as a member of the Board of Advisors to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Beef Industry Council, and as a member of the Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission. Mr. Takemoto currently is a member of the City and County of Honolulu's Agricultural Development Task Force and serves on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association and the South Oahu County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Takemoto's extensive background and experience in Hawaii's agricultural industry would be an asset to the Agribusiness Development Corporation and makes him an ideal candidate for the At-Large Director on their Board of Directors.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to support the nomination Alan Takemoto to the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board of Directors. We hope that you will give Mr. Takemoto's nomination to this position serious consideration.



Hawaii Agriculture Research Center

Administration: P.O. Box 100, Kunia, HI 96759

Ph: 808-621-1350/Fax: 808-621-1359

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

GM 579

Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation

Alan T. Takemoto

April 14, 2011

Chairman Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

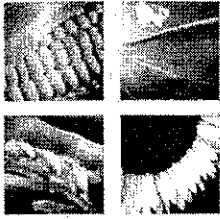
I am Blake Vance, Assistant Director of the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC). I am submitting my testimony today on behalf of HARC.

HARC firmly supports the confirmation of Alan Takemoto to Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC)'s Board of Directors.

I have known Mr. Takemoto for a number of years initially through his association with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. This Senate Committee is well aware that that federation is the largest non-profit general agricultural organization representing approximately 1,600 farm and ranch family members statewide at the time Mr. Takemoto served as its Executive Director. His representation on various state and county committees (e.g., Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission) lends a reservoir of experience that should benefit ADC governance. Over the years, Mr. Takemoto has impressed me with his ardent advocacy for agriculture. I have no doubt ADC's Board would be enhanced by his membership.

On behalf of HARC, I respectfully request that you confirm Mr. Takemoto's appointment as Director to the Board of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

I appreciate your providing the opportunity to voice our support for Mr. Takemoto – mahalo.



Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

Testimony By: Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director

GM 579 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alan Takemoto, for a term to expire December 31, 2015

The Senate Committee on Agriculture

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Room 229, 2:45 p.m.

**HCIA 2010-2012
Board of Directors**

President

Fred Perlak

Vice President

Laurie Goodwin

Treasurer

John Anderson

Secretary

Alika Napier

Directors At Large

David Gilliland

Cindy Goldstein

Adolph Helm

Kirby Kester

Steve Lupkes

Mark Phillipson

Mark Sloutemyer

Alan Takemoto

Past President

Adolph Helm

Executive Director

Alicia Maluafiti

Position: Strongly Support

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kahele and members of the Committee:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, a nonprofit trade association representing the seed industry in Hawaii. HCIA strongly supports the confirmation of Alan Takemoto to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Alan Takemoto has spent almost 20 years advocating for the best interests of the agricultural industry from small locally owned family operations to large agribusinesses to now the seed industry. He has demonstrated a love of the land and a commitment to our islands that ensures a ubiquitous voice for agriculture at the local, state and federal level.

I have enjoyed working very closely with Alan these past few years through his board position with the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association. I thoroughly respect and admire his knowledge and understanding of the critical issues impacting ag in Hawaii. He has taken a visible leadership position to advocate for capital funds to repair the Waiahole irrigation system and he continues to lobby for passage of important ag land legislation. More importantly, Alan has demonstrated a strategic understanding of how to address the competing challenges facing the agricultural community. He has been a wonderful mentor and an important face and voice for the seed industry as well as all of ag. I don't believe you'll find a more qualified and competent Board Member for the ADC.

Mahalo for the privilege of supporting the appointment of Alan Takemoto.

JASON D. MONIZ, D.V.M.

PO BOX 428

PAAUILO, HI 96776

Chairman Senator Nishihara and members of the Committee on Agriculture, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the nominations of Scott Enright, Alan Takemoto and Letitia Uyehara, as directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. The Governor has selected three very qualified individuals to serve on this important agriculture board. I have worked with all three and hold each in very high regard.

I have worked as a veterinary medical office and program manager with the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture (HDOA) for 28 years and worked in support of and admired Tisha Uyehara's leadership and initiatives while she served as the Department's deputy chairperson.

As a member of the Hawaii Farm Bureau for many years I greatly appreciated Alan Takemoto's leadership and tireless efforts to support the farmers and ranchers in Hawaii.

I'm currently serving along with Scott Enright on the County of Hawaii's Hamakua Community Development Plan steering committee where we both focus on the Agriculture and Natural Resources strategy areas. I have quickly come to appreciate the knowledge, communication and conflict avoidance skills Scott demonstrates at the many public and strategy area meetings we have attended.

Again these are three highly qualified individuals and I strongly support their nominations to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, April 14, 2011 at 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

LATE

**RE: GM 547 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
ALAN T. TAKEMOTO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2015**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kahele, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber supports the confirmation of Mr. Alan Takemoto to the Board of the Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,100 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Takemoto has proved to be an effective champion of the agricultural industry. Due to his credibility and exceptional advocacy efforts, he has gained the respect and adulation from his peers, colleagues, and members across the board, including the business community.

We have the utmost confidence that Alan Takemoto will serve with integrity, responsibility, and a positive attitude, as well as make a significant contribution due to his expertise and wealth of knowledge in this area. He will be a tremendous asset to the board.

We respectfully ask that the committee pass GM 547. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.