

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 7:38 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject: Testimony for HB288 on 2/2/2011 9:40:00 AM

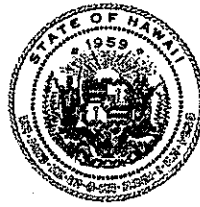
Testimony for AGR 2/2/2011 9:40:00 AM HB288

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John R. Gordines
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Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

I am a board member and chairman of the regulatory committee for the Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery Assn. a statewide organization. We strongly support HB288 RELATING TO PLANTS. Requires the board of agriculture to perform a risk assessment on plants that pose a danger to, and are imported into the State. Currently we have been under attack with invasive species entering our Hawaii gates and positive enforcement is necessary along with integrated pest management to ensure any further import of additional pests. If not addressed may have additional impacts on the management and export of Hawaii flowers and foliage. Mahalo!

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, February 2, 2011
9:40 AM**

State Capitol, House Conference Room 312

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 288
RELATING TO PLANTS**

House Bill 288 requires the Board of Agriculture to perform a risk assessment on plants that pose a danger to and are imported into the State. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments on the proposed bill.

The Department recognizes this as a needed step to protect Hawaii from further harm from invasive species, but also recognizes that it is not possible to implement a major expansion of duties and responsibilities to perform these risk assessments at this time with the limited and reduced staff available in the Department of Agriculture's inspection program. The implementation of an expanded program of risk assessment will require the restoration and increase in Department of Agriculture staff capacity to manage the program.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAILOOLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS