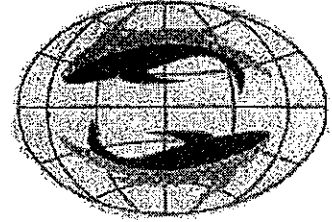


LATE TESTIMONY

Cates



International, Inc.

Cates International, Inc.
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair
Rep. Mark J. Hashem, vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Denny Coffman, Acting Chair

Date: Friday, April 01, 2011
Time: 10:00 am
Place: Conference Room 312
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony in support of HCR 238

Aloha Rep. Tsuji, Hashem, and Coffman,

I have been involved with Aquaculture in the State of Hawaii for over 12 years now, I was the first Owner/Operator of Cates International, which obtained the first open ocean lease in the State of Hawaii. I writing to all of you to seek your support to request the Department of Health to fully support the development of the shellfish aquaculture industry and implement a statewide classification program for shellfish growing areas. I believe there is great potential shellfish grow out in the State of Hawaii, we have the

market demand, grow out areas, and the hatcheries already in place here in Hawaii, what we now need is the certification capabilities.

If this request goes through and is implemented, I seek to obtain a grow out site and invest in this new type of business as well as my current finfish operations and future plans. Please support this; it has real potential for the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Randy Cates

House of Representatives, 26th Legislature, Regular Session of 2011

LATE TESTIMONY

To: Committee on Agriculture
Rep. C. Tsuji, Chair
Rep. M. Hashem, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Rep. D. Coffman, Acting Chair

Fr: Dr. Paul Bienfang, President, Analytical Services Inc.

Subject: Testimony in Strong Support of HCR 238 Requesting the DOH to Fully Support the Development of the Shellfish Aquaculture Industry and Implement a Statewide Classification Program for Shellfish Growing Areas

I thank the legislature for the many efforts in support of this resolution. I also thank the Department of Health officials and technical staff for their past and ongoing support of this activity that will contribute to restoration of a shellfish industry in Hawaii.

We have had several very positive meetings on issues required to gain the needed lab certification, and to subsequently establish a laboratory evaluation officer.

At present the DOH has a certification program for imported shellfish but not for locally grown shellfish. Locally grown shellfish are presently exported as juveniles to West Coast sites for growout and then shipped back to Hawaii for local sale.

The lack of a Statewide Classification Program for shellfish growing areas has been a roadblock to establishing a shellfish aquaculture industry in Hawaii for decades.

Work to date has recognized the most significant issues toward the end of securing this most promising segment of local food production for local consumption. All evidence to date indicates the absence of growth, taste, economic, or production hurdles to the revitalization of this local aquaculture.

We at Analytical Services Inc. are committed to assisting this new industry segment. Establishing the laboratory certification process is critical to marketing edible bivalves that are grown in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important measure.

