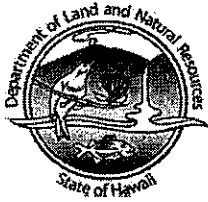


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND BUSINESS**

**Tuesday, March 15, 2011
8:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference 312**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 776, SENATE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Senate Bill 776, Senate Draft 2 establishes a task force to identify barriers to developing biotechnology businesses and recommend specific actions to address these barriers. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the creation of the Task Force provided that the charge given to the Task Force is appropriately changed to address invasive and harmful species issues.

The Task Force should not be expediting permit processing of biotechnology businesses for import of organisms or other items classified as invasive species or hazardous in some manner. The existing permit process protects Hawaii's environment and economy from harmful organisms by preventing the mistakes of past introductions by entrepreneurial businesses that resulted in damage to the State. The Task Force should be instructed to identify a process where organisms classified as invasive species or hazardous in some manner are identified early in the process and avoided.

The Department suggests the following change to SECTION 2(a) of the bill:

SECTION 2. (a) There is established a biotechnology task force within the University of Hawaii for administrative purposes only. The task force shall assess barriers faced by businesses engaged in biotechnology research or other activities, and develop recommendations and any legislation required to expedite permit processing for the specialized needs of biotechnology businesses, including importation of organisms or other items [~~that are typically classified as invasive species or hazardous in some manner~~]. The task force shall recommend a process to identify organisms as invasive or hazardous early in the process so that their introduction to the State can be avoided.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
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
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LAND
STATE PARKS

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2011 11:35 AM
To: ERBtestimony
Cc: swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB776 on 3/15/2011 8:00:00 AM

Testimony for ERB 3/15/2011 8:00:00 AM SB776

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: gregory swartz
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/13/2011

Comments:
Ok, this sounds like an economic opportunity suitable for Hawaii.