



**Hawaii Farm Bureau**  
F E D E R A T I O N

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March 29, 2012

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON HB 1942, HD2, SD1  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 211  
9:00 AM

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

I am Mae Nakahata, representing the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFBF is in strong support of HB 1942, HD2, SD1, providing mechanisms for funding towards the implementation of the electronic importer manifest program.

Technology has advanced. When you return a car to Avis, a person with an electronic device process your return and prints a receipt ... all without the intervention of data entry by the worker. Fed Ex commercials on TV show tracking of packages as it travels across the country.

At the same time, it is an undeniable fact that the threat of invasive species entering Hawaii is on the increase. Globalization makes this inevitable. Use of technology to expand HDOA's efficiency in protecting Hawaii must be a priority.

We respectfully request your strong support with restoration of funding and effective date of the measure.