

# **HB283 HD1**

## **Testimony**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor



RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2012  
2:50 P.M.

HOUSE BILL NO. 283 H.D. 1  
RELATING TO STATE FUNDS

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 283 HD1. The purpose of this bill is to transfer moneys from the agricultural loan revolving fund to the pest inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund. The Department of Agriculture supports the bill with reservations.

The Department of Agriculture recognizes the importance of eradicating the coffee berry borer (CBB) and due to the relatively small amount of the transfer supports the transfer of funds. We are, however, concerned that any further transfers of monies will jeopardize the Agricultural Loan program's ability to remain solvent as the program's revenues have been severely curtailed due to historically low interest rates and the effect the slow economy has had on collections.

Due to the recent amount of introductions of pests into the island such as the coqui frog, nettle caterpillar, varroa mite and coffee borer, the department suggests that a more appropriate and permanent means of funding must be developed to protect the State's fragile environment.

The Department would request one technical amendment to the bill correcting the name of CBB from “coffee beetle borer” to “coffee berry borer”.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and offer comments.



**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](mailto:info@hfbf.org)  
[www.hfbf.org](http://www.hfbf.org)

March 13, 2012

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 283, HD1  
RELATING TO STATE FUNDS

Room 229  
2:50 PM

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

I am Brian Miyamoto, Chief Operating Officer and Government Affairs Liaison for 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 283, Proposed HD1, which authorizes the transfer of \$140,000 from the agricultural loan revolving fund to the pest inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund for a program to control and eradicate Coffee Berry Borer (CBB).

The recent discovery of CBB in Kona threatens the entire Hawaiian coffee industry. Shortly after its discovery, a small number of Ka'u Farms have been identified as hosting the beetle. Ka'u is different than Kona in that affected farms are more centralized and are not surrounded by feral coffee. Feral coffee acts as reservoir for the pest, mitigating the impacts of even the best management techniques. Ka'u's aggressive response to CBB may not be easily replicated on neighbor islands. Large farms both on Maui and Kauai utilize machine harvesting, making good sanitation practices very costly, if not impossible.

While the full tally is yet to be made, Kona has been experiencing losses on the magnitude of 20-40%. Moreover, large quantities of coffee have been downgraded due to insect damage, reducing the farm gate value of the remaining crop. CBB is a serious threat to Hawaii's agriculture industry and the state's economy. While CBB is battled worldwide, no other coffee growing origin shares Hawaii's high labor costs and restrictions on pesticides.

The industry's response has been immediate and multi-faceted. An ad-hoc CBB task force has been formed, including growers, processors, HDOA, UH, USDA and county government. Industry has committed \$50,000 toward the effort. Countless private dollars continue to be expended in the fight. Legislation that proposed a self-imposed 1 cent per pound fee on all coffee grown or imported to the state failed earlier this session. Federal grant applications are currently being developed.

This appropriation should be viewed as an investment one of the state's largest agricultural products and one that brings fame to Hawaii and helps drives tourism.

HFBF respectfully request that you support this measure.

I can be reached at (808) 848-2074 if you have any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

**Ka'u Farm Bureau  
PO Box 1109  
Naalehu Hawaii 96772  
808-929-9550**

TESTIMONY ON HB283 HD1

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 13, 2012  
2:50 p.m.  
Conference Room 229

**Appropriates \$140,000 for a program to control and eradicate the coffee borer beetle.**

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

**Ka'u Farm Bureau strongly supports HB283 HD1.**

The recent discovery of Coffee Berry Borer (CBB) in Kona threatens the entire Hawaiian coffee industry. Shortly after its discovery, a small number of Ka'u Farms have been identified as hosting the beetle. Ka'u is different than Kona in that our affected farms are more centralized and are not surrounded by feral coffee. Feral coffee acts as reservoir for the pest, mitigating the impacts of even the best management techniques. Ka'u's aggressive response to CBB may not be easily replicated on neighbor islands. Large farms both on Maui and Kauai utilize machine harvesting, making good sanitation practices very costly, if not impossible.

While the full tally is yet to be made, Kona has been experiencing losses on the magnitude of 20-40%. Moreover, large quantities of coffee have been downgraded due to insect damage, reducing the farm gate value of the remaining crop. CBB is a serious threat to Hawaii's agriculture industry and the state's economy. While CBB is battled worldwide, no other coffee growing origin shares Hawaii's high labor costs and restrictions on pesticides.

The industry's response has been immediate and multi-faceted. An ad-hoc CBB task force has been formed, including growers, processors, HDOA, UH, USDA and county government. Industry has committed \$50K toward the effort. Countless private dollars continue to be expended in the fight. Legislation that proposed a self-imposed 1 cent per pound fee on all coffee grown or imported to the state failed earlier this session. Federal grant applications are currently being developed.

This appropriation should be viewed as an investment one of the state's largest agricultural products and one that brings fame to Hawaii and helps drives tourism.

Please approve this measure.

Thank you!

Chris Manfredi  
President



Testimony Reference : Committee : HB 283 HD1

DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 2012

TIME: 2:50 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 229

From: Hawaii Farmers Union United

SUPPORT with comments

The HOUSE committee meeting, the Chair Rep. Tsuji spoke to intention of using \$140,000 of the OIL TAX monies.

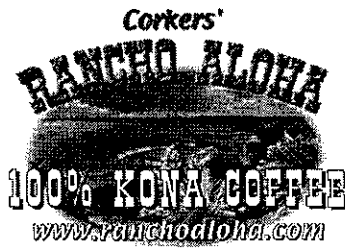
Now we have robbing the revolving Coffee fund of "excess" monies to fund the program.

Is anyone concerned that this is a multi-million industry threaten with RUIN and all the State can do, 18 months into the problem is limited funds to cut down wild coffee trees?

To little to late. This is more AG HOSPICE action, not a solution. The fact that Russell Kokubun has reportedly not bothered to speak to the KCFA folks speaks volumes.

Glenn Martinez

President



RANCHO ALOHA, PO Box 417, HOLUALOA, HAWAII 96725  
808-322-9562

## TESTIMONY SUPPORTING THE INTENT OF HB283/HD1—WITH MODIFICATIONS

Dear Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Agriculture Committee:

I am a coffee and avocado farmer in the Kona Region of Hawaii County, and request that HB283/HD1 be amended to provide significantly greater resources for developing a comprehensive coffee berry borer (CBB) mitigation program.

I support the intent to provide funding for CBB mitigation, but find that in its current form the bill is inadequate for the following reasons:

1—Given the **dire emergency** created by CBB for coffee farmers in Hawaii County, the proposed appropriation of \$140,000 is **grossly inadequate**. Puerto Rico has spent almost \$1 million and Jamaica has recently appropriated \$9 million for CBB mitigation. Why is Hawaii not giving the same levels of support for CBB mitigation for its coffee farmers as is being given by these other “developing” coffee-growing regions? **Hawaii needs to adequately support its farmers.**

2—The focus of HB283/HD1 is misguided. Instead of mandating use of these very meager funds for unspecified eradication and destruction of coffee trees, the Hawaii Legislature needs to take a rational approach and provide funding to put entomologists on the ground in Hawaii County—**on an emergency basis**. This is an emergency and the Hawaii Legislature needs to treat it as an emergency. Hawaii needs to fully fund the development and implementation of a CBB mitigation program tailored to the environment in Hawaii County—with scientifically based cost/benefit analyses. **Why isn't the Legislature directing that this money to be**



**used for an entomologist to be assigned to Hawaii County for CBB mitigation?**

3—This bill represents a poorly crafted and ill-advised rush to legislation. Until February 22, 2012, this was a “blank” bill and the current language of the bill did not exist as a matter of record before that date. There was no hearing held before the House Agriculture Committee. Whoever drafted the bill did not consult or review the bill’s provisions with the Kona Coffee Farmers Association or its coffee farmer members.

Please amend this bill to, at a minimum, fund a Hawaii CBB mitigation program at a level similar to that invested by Puerto Rico. Hawaii has a “developed” economy with significant resources. The Hawaii Legislature should stop repeating unfulfilled promises about “sustaining” agriculture and “supporting” Hawaii’s farming families. It should appropriate sufficient resources to, in this instance, follow through on those repeated promises.

Sincerely,

Bruce Corker  
Rancho Aloha  
Holualoa, Hawaii County

# Greenwell Farms, Inc.

P.O. Box 248  
Kealahou, Hawaii 96750

## TESTIMONY ON HB283

Senate Committee on Agriculture

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 13, 2012  
Conference Room 229

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Agriculture Committee

Greenwell Farms, Inc. has been purchasing and processing coffee cherry from Kona farmers for many years. Over the past two coffee seasons, we have been alarmed at the pace of growth and magnitude of the coffee berry borer (CBB) infestation in Kona.

During the 2010/11 coffee season, the overall average infestation rate coming into our mill was a manageable 5 percent or less. Early this season, we noted a significant increase in CBB rates and immediately initiated a formal testing of all cherry delivered to our mill. Sadly, this past season showed that overall infestation of CBB delivered to our mill has increased to over 20 percent. Many farms have been completely devastated.

We have come to the realization that:

- Kona provides perfect year-round growing conditions for this new pest.
- The adaptation of cultural practices by the farming community needed to mitigate this threat has been slow, too slow for the pace of the CBB population growth.
- The existence of wild and abandoned coffee throughout our area exacerbates eradication and control measures.

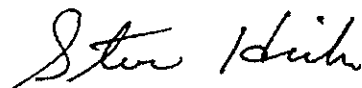
- CBB is a real threat to the value of Kona Coffee and the reputation of our industry.
- The Hawaii Coffee industry on ALL islands is at risk if the CBB infestation in Kona is not controlled.

We believe that, without significant public assistance, the farming community in Kona cannot contain the CBB infestation in Kona and our industry is at tremendous risk.

We strongly urge you to pass HB293. Your support of this important measure is a key component of our industry's battle against this challenge.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Hicks".

Steve Hicks, CFO

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 9:41 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** page@princessradhafarm.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Page Trygstad  
Organization:  
E-mail: [page@princessradhafarm.com](mailto:page@princessradhafarm.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

The funding is insufficient. At the same time in HB280 you propose to eliminate certification of Kona green beans. This is complete nonsense. Use this money to fund additional inspectors. By passing this you only support the interests of the parties that brought the problem to us, the blenders/processors and do not help the 700 farmers at all!!!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 10:23 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** hanna.louise@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Comments Only  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Louise Hanna  
Organization: Luther Coffee Farm  
E-mail: [hanna.louise@gmail.com](mailto:hanna.louise@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

The intent of this bill is good, however it needs to be amended to increase the funding to a more adequate level to provide state funded scientific research to grow the local strain of fungus to combat the CBB. This is a long term problem and cannot be adequately addressed with \$140,000. We are in dire danger of loosing our entire coffee industry if a united effort is not made to address the emergency.

Sincerely,  
Louise Hanna

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 10:35 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** colemel@kanalanifarm.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Comments Only  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Colehour Bondera  
Organization: Kanalani Ohana Farm  
E-mail: [colemel@kanalanifarm.org](mailto:colemel@kanalanifarm.org)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha Chair & Committee members:

As a Kona coffee farmer I would like to share my thoughts.

Regarding this piece of legislation, I hereby declare that while the Kona coffee farmers do need funds to help mitigate the problems with CBB, that this does not go far enough.

Specifically, the amount identified is small enough to not be of help. Please allocate more funds even if some portion has to be postponed until next year for access! Other places with similar problems are putting forth \$1-9 million to address the needs at hand.

Further, we do NOT need removal of trees anywhere as much as we need hands on and on the ground educational efforts to ensure that coffee famers and land managers and non-English speaking workers can effectively deal with the complexities they face.

More-so since we do not have an experienced entomologist in Kona to address our needs, it would make sense for Hawaii to ensure that even a short-term contracted position immediately address the problem, so that farmers and Kona farmer organizations are not trying to re-invent the wheel by doing all of the research already done elsewhere and primarily making all of the same mistakes that need not be repeated!

Please ensure that a Kona entomologist is proposing an action plan which will prioritize successful CBB control approaches more effectively than people who are randomly suggesting that spending a small amount of money to remove a few trees will somehow address this county-wide and soon to be state-wide problem of serious concern.

Thank you for your attention to this opportunity to improve this effort and ensure that funds are not mis-guided by a few loud voices in the process.

Yours,

Colehour Bondera  
KANALANI OHANA FARM

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 11:16 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** goldsun@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Christine Carrico  
Organization: Kona Coffee Farmers Assoc.  
E-mail: [goldsun@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:goldsun@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

Dear Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Agriculture Committee:

&#160;

My family and I are Kona Coffee Farmers.

&#160;

I support the intent of HB283 to provide funding for CBB mitigation, but I find that in its current form the bill lacks several important focus points:

&#160;

1–Given the dire emergency created by CBB for coffee farmers in Hawaii County, the proposed appropriation of \$140,000 is grossly inadequate. Puerto Rico has spent almost \$1 million and Jamaica has recently appropriated \$9 million for CBB mitigation.&#160; Why is Hawaii not giving the same level of support for CBB mitigation to its coffee farmers as is being given by these other “developing” regions?&#160; Hawaii needs to adequately support its farmers.

&#160;

2–The focus of HB283/HD1 is misguided.&#160; Instead of mandating use of these very meager funds for eradication and destruction of coffee trees, the Hawaii Legislature needs to take a rational approach and provide funding to put entomologists on the ground in Hawaii County–on an emergency basis.&#160; This is an emergency and the Hawaii Legislature needs to treat it as an emergency. Hawaii needs to fully fund the development and implementation of a CBB mitigation program tailored to the environment in Hawaii County–with scientifically based cost/benefit analyses.

&#160;

3–This bill represents a poorly crafted and ill-advised rush to legislation.&#160; The current form of the bill did not exist before 2/22/12.&#160; There was no hearing held before the House Agriculture Committee.&#160; Whoever drafted the bill did not consult or review the bill’s provisions with the Kona Coffee Farmers Association or its coffee farmers members.

Please amend this bill to, at a minimum, fund a CBB mitigation program at the same level as Puerto Rico.

Sincerely, Christy Carrico  
Honu Kula Coffee Farm

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 1:07 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** michael.conway@dole.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Michael Conway  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [michael.conway@dole.com](mailto:michael.conway@dole.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 1:22 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** coffee@heavenlyhawaiian.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: David Bateman  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [coffee@heavenlyhawaiian.com](mailto:coffee@heavenlyhawaiian.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

Chair Nishihara and Members:

I strongly support HB 283 as it has crossed over into your committee. As you probably know, the coffee farmers here in the Kona coffee belt have been severely impacted with the recent infestation of the coffee berry borer (CBB). Of the 900 +/- Kona coffee farms, over 300 have been adversely impacted with 50-100% losses. It is estimated that now over 90% of the Kona coffee farms have the CBB. The Ka'u district is also reporting that nearly all their farms are now infested. Combined with the three month drought suffered by many of the farmers, we are literally struggling for survival of this coffee industry. We desperately need the State's help to support our efforts against the CBB. The proposed funding legislation is an excellent start.

Thank you for considering my written testimony.

David Bateman  
Heavenly Hawaiian Farms  
Holualoa HI

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 1:26 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** gbiven@hicoffeeco.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Gloria Biven  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [gbiven@hicoffeeco.com](mailto:gbiven@hicoffeeco.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 2:21 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** jwayman@hawaiicoffeecompany.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Jim Wayman  
Organization: Hawaii Coffee Company  
E-mail: [jwayman@hawaiicoffeecompany.com](mailto:jwayman@hawaiicoffeecompany.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

I strongly support HB 283. The Kona Coffee Industry has been decimated by the Coffee Berry Borer Beetle which was discovered in 2010. It is estimated that 20% of the farm gate value of the Kona crop was lost in 2011. Funds are desperately needed to eliminate feral coffee on the Big Island which is a first step in curtailing the problem. We must do everything possible to keep this problem from spreading to any other coffee growing islands.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 2:38 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** jlenhart@hicoffeeco.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jim Lenhart  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [jlenhart@hicoffeeco.com](mailto:jlenhart@hicoffeeco.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

Funds are needed to combat the spread of the coffee borer beetle throughout the state.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 2:51 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** tikehara@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Terry Ikehara  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [tikehara@yahoo.com](mailto:tikehara@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 2:57 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** rkaiwi@hicoffeeco.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Roger Kaiwi  
Organization: Kona Coffee Council  
E-mail: [rkaiwi@hicoffeeco.com](mailto:rkaiwi@hicoffeeco.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:  
I strongly support HB283.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 3:03 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** chexmixelite@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jerald Ramos  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [chexmixelite@yahoo.com](mailto:chexmixelite@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 3:05 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** sronq84@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Steven Ronquillo  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [sronq84@gmail.com](mailto:sronq84@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 3:07 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** myko95@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Michael Lacamiento  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [myko95@yahoo.com](mailto:myko95@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 3:13 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** rnishihara@hicoffeeco.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Rachel  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [rnishihara@hicoffeeco.com](mailto:rnishihara@hicoffeeco.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

strongly support HB 283. The Kona Coffee Industry has been decimated by the Coffee Berry Borer Beetle which was discovered in 2010. It is estimated that 20% of the farm gate value of the Kona crop was lost in 2011. Funds are desperately needed to eliminate feral coffee on the Big Island which is a first step in curtailing the problem. We must do everything possible to keep this problem from spreading to any other coffee growing islands.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 3:45 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** patwayman@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Patricia Wayman  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [patwayman@aol.com](mailto:patwayman@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

I strongly support this bill. Please do everything you can to contain this problem. Thank you, Patricia Wayman

**nishihara1 - Danille**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 4:43 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** jkimof@msn.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: James K Falconer  
Organization: Hawaii Coffee Growers Assn  
E-mail: [jkimof@msn.com](mailto:jkimof@msn.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

Dear Chair and members of the committee, Your vote of support to help control the devastating coffee berry borer will be a tremendous act to assist us in the fight to shore up our industry. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. This is also viewed as support to control the spread of this pest statewide.

Thank you much.

James K Falconer

President Hawaii Coffee Growers Assn.

**nishihara1 - Danille**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 4:48 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** Jkimof@msn.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: kimo falconer  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [Jkimof@msn.com](mailto:Jkimof@msn.com)  
Submitted on: 3/12/2012

**Comments:**

Dear Chair and members,  
Please support HB283 as this is a vote in favor of helping fight a serious pest that has recently attached our fastly growing industry. There are approximately 200 new coffee growers on Maui with great promise to increase acreage. Early assistance from you will keep up this growth momentum.  
Many thanks,  
Kimo Falconer, President MauiGrown Coffee, Inc.

**nishihara1 - Danille**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2012 7:14 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** brun0-1000@usa.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Comments Only  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Paul Uster  
Organization: Mokulele Farms  
E-mail: [brun0-1000@usa.net](mailto:brun0-1000@usa.net)  
Submitted on: 3/13/2012

**Comments:**

I support the intent, but the monies allocated are too small to make a significant impact, and is likely to cause considerable disagreement in the Hawaii County community about how to prioritize those pennies. Find about 5 times that much money and then move this bill forward. Until then, defer it.

**nishihara1 - Danille**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2012 8:42 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** devotedninspired@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB283 on 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM

Testimony for AGL 3/13/2012 2:50:00 PM HB283

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: wendy  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [devotedninspired@gmail.com](mailto:devotedninspired@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/13/2012

**Comments:**

I strongly support HB 283. The Kona Coffee Industry has been decimated by the Coffee Berry Borer Beetle which was discovered in 2010. It is estimated that 20% of the farm gate value of the Kona crop was lost in 2011. Funds are desperately needed to eliminate feral coffee on the Big Island which is a first step in curtailing the problem. We must do everything possible to keep this problem from spreading to any other coffee growing islands.