

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

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

MARCH 21, 2012, 9:00 A.M. ROOM 312

SENATE BILL NO. 3011, SD 2, HD 1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3011, SD 2, HD 1. The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Agriculture to transfer title to specific public agricultural lands under its jurisdiction to the agribusiness development corporation. The Department of Agriculture opposes this bill and believes it is unnecessary.

These lands have recently been transferred to the department's Non-Agricultural Park Lands Program. This program (Chapter 166E, HRS) was established by Act 90 of Session Laws of 2003 with the intent to "... ensure the long-term productive use of public lands leased or available to be leased by the Department of Land and Natural Resources for agricultural purposes by allowing these lands to be transferred to and managed by the Department of Agriculture."

The Department does not see a need for a bill to transfer lands from the DOA to the ADC as such a transfer is already within the purview of the Department. To date, approximately 140 parcels have been transferred via Governor's Executive order with an additional 90 parcels in the queue. We continue to work with DLNR to identify additional lands appropriate for transfer under the spirit of this program.



TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES SENATE BILL NO. 3011, SD 2 MARCH 12, 2012, 9:15 A.M PAGE 2

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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TESTIMONY OF JAMES NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:00 A.M. Conference Room 312

SENATE BILL NO. 3011, SD 2, HD 1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3011, SD 2, HD 1. The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Agriculture (DOA) to transfer TMKs (1) 9-4-012:001; (1) 9-4-012:002, and (1) 9-4-012:003 located in Kunia, Oahu to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) no later than January 1, 2013. The ADC support the intent of this bill, however we defer any further comments to DOA.

LATE TESTIMONY



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March 21, 2012

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 3011, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

> Room 312 9:00 AM

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee:

I am Dean Okimoto, President of 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 strongly supports SB 3011, SD2, HD1 which requires Department of Agriculture to transfer the parcels of land identified by the TMKs (1) 9-4-012:001, (1) 9-4-012:002, and (1) 9-4-012:003 to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC).

From an agricultural industry standpoint, we believe that ADC is the more appropriate state agency that should have the authority to manage these specific TMKs.

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