



STATE OF HAWAII  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF JAMES NAKATANI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Thursday, April 19, 2012  
10:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 224

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 171  
REQUESTING THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO  
ACQUIRE LAND FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS INFRASTRUCTURE  
NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE ITS MISSION**

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on S.C.R. No. 171. The purpose of this resolution is to look into the feasibility of acquiring land located at Tax Map Key 74012016 which is adjacent to farmlands and is within close proximity to Agribusiness Development Corporation-owned and Agribusiness Development Corporation-leased farmlands.

The Agribusiness Development Corporation strongly supports this resolution.

The location at Tax Map Key 74012016 in Wahiawa, near adjacent farmlands offers many possibilities to enhance the economic viability of the agricultural community. Some possibilities may include a certified kitchen and/or a food processing facility which will allow the farming community to process added value products. Another possibility is the creation of a market place for vendors to sell their

produce which will directly benefit the growers as well as stimulate business in the area.

For example, in Waipahu there is a fledgling open market which attracts many vendors and shoppers especially on the weekends, in a part of town which was once considered a dead zone. The possibilities are numerous to help grow agriculture in Wahiawa. The land acquisition at Tax Map Key 74012016 will allow Agribusiness Development Corporation to improve infrastructure necessary to achieve its mission.

Thank you.



**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)

April 19, 2012

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SCR 171  
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LAND FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS INFRASTRUCTURE NECESSARY TO  
ACHIEVE ITS MISSION

Room 224  
10:30 AM

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

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 is in strong support of SCR 171, requesting the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) acquire land to improve their infrastructure necessary to achieve their mission.

ADC was initiated by the agricultural industry as the closure of plantations escalated and there was a need to identify mechanisms that could quickly place farmers on lands that were destined to be idle.

HFBF believes that ADC has a tremendous amount of power and has a responsibility in continuing to assist Hawaii's transition from plantation agriculture to smaller diversified agricultural operations.

We respectfully request your strong support of SCR 171.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.