



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

APRIL 19, 2012
10:30 AM
ROOM 224

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 89 SD1
REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE
MEASUREMENT STANDARDS BRANCH WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Concurrent Resolution 89 SD1. The purpose of this resolution is to request the auditor to conduct a management audit to determine the current state of the Measurement Standards Branch and make recommendations on the resources needed to fully carry out its purpose and responsibilities. The department supports this resolution.

The objectives of the Measurement Standards Branch are to minimize inaccuracy or fraudulent practices in commercial measurement, labeling, and pricing, and to reduce losses for sellers and consumers through a program of licensing, inspecting, testing, calibrating, and investigating. Duties of the Branch inspectors include device inspection of scales, retail petroleum pumps, and taximeters; packaging inspections pertaining to the quantity, labeling and pricing of packages, and retail price scanners.

Over the years, positions within the Measurement Standards Branch have been reduced through attrition and the additional reduction-in-force in 2009 has resulted in the remaining staff of three Measurement Standards inspectors, one metrologist and two clerks. This has further reduced the Branch's ability to fulfill its mandated responsibilities.



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