



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2014
9:30 A.M.
Conference Room 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 1535
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Chairperson Wooley and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1535. This bill would establish a new chapter for the Hawaii youth agricultural corps under the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA).

HDOA supports educational outreach that provides opportunities for high school and college youth to gain hands-on agricultural education and workforce development in the agricultural sector.

However, there are organizations already in place that currently provide the educational programs sought through this bill. For high school students, the Hawaii FFA provides hands-on agricultural education and workforce development and the Agriculture Future of America provides leader and career development training to college level students. Due to their experience with educational outreach, we feel an initiative such as this would be better served by those programs rather than creating a new program within the HDOA.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2014 12:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1535 on Jan 23, 2014 09:30AM*

HB1535

Submitted on: 1/21/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 23, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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To: AGRtestimony
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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1535 on Jan 23, 2014 09:30AM

HB1535

Submitted on: 1/21/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 23, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Too many of today's youth do not know where their food comes from or how to grow food. It is no longer taught in the schools or incorporated into the Dept of Educations programs, The only programs that exist in Hawaii schools at this time are school garden programs which are excellent but limited in resources, staff and support by the Dept. of Ed. We need create more opportunities for youth agriculture programs. Learning to grow food is empowering and gives youth the opportunity to be outdoors, connect with nature and their environment in important ways. Thank you

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