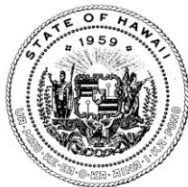


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Testimony of
GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
AUDREY HIDANO
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 3, 2014
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 309

H.B. 2426
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2426 which will provide general funds to the Department of Agriculture to further assist their infrastructure and facility requirements to bolster our biosecurity and prevent the introduction of new invasive species at Hawaii's airports and harbors that might be harmful to Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



LATE

P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
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February 3, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 2426
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY
Room 309
10:00 AM

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,832 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.

Hawaii Farm Bureau **is in strong support** of this measure providing an appropriation for biosecurity facilities at harbors and ports.

Facilities at ports and harbors are a critical component of Hawaii's Biosecurity Plan. HRS 266-21.5 articulates the role of the Department of Transportation.

[§266-21.5] **Biosecurity, inspection, and cargo support facilities.** (a) The department of transportation shall provide space at commercial harbors for biosecurity and inspection facilities and to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of maritime cargo through the commercial harbors.
(b) The department and department of agriculture shall plan, design, and construct biosecurity, inspection, consolidation, deconsolidation, and treatment facilities for use by the department of agriculture to enhance the efficient and safe movement of imported and exported marine cargo, to include food [safety] and food security guidelines and standards. [L 2011, c 202, §3]

The design of facilities that allow timely, safe and efficient inspections are critical while at the same time, facilitate cargo movement in the harbors and ports. We understand that such discussions have taken place and strongly support the funding of measures as part of an ongoing process to improve our harbors and ports to implement the Hawaii Biosecurity Plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this important matter. If there are questions, please contact Warren Watanabe at 2819718 or warrenmcfb@gmail.com.

takayama2 -Brandon

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 02, 2014 3:01 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2426 on Feb 3, 2014 10:00AM

HB2426

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments: Funding of these critical components of the biosecurity plan is needed for implementation

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair
Representative Greg Takayama, Vice Chair

Testimony of the Oahu Invasive Species Committee in **support** of HB 2426 Relating to the Biosecurity

Monday, February 3, 2014 Conference Rm 309

The Oahu Invasive Species Committee supports HB 2426, which would provide support to our airports and harbors for the infrastructure and facilities necessary to prevent the introduction of new invasive species to Hawaii. Funding preventative protections such as the proposed biosecurity facilities is the soundest investment the State can make to protect the economy and its natural resources.

One out of many examples of how biosecurity facilities will aid in preventative costs is the recent introduction of little fire ant to Oahu and Maui. Little fire ant is a highly invasive ant that threatens Hawaii's economy, environment and quality of life. It is an extremely small (1/16th of an inch, or as long as a penny is wide), pale orange ant that has a painful sting, nests on the ground and up in the trees, and is slow moving. This invasive ant species will significantly impact the local agricultural and tourism economy due to its large, super-colony nests, which can rain down on agricultural or green industry workers and unsuspecting tourists from the tree canopies above. Another important impact of little fire ant is that pets, like cats and dogs, may become blind from the ants repeatedly stinging their eyes. Little fire ants were detected on Oahu and Maui in December 2013, brought in on a shipment of hapu'u (native fern) logs from Hawai'i Island.

If there were adequate biosecurity facilities on each island, this incursion most likely would have been prevented. Now, the State may spend \$170 million a year to control this single, tiny species.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Oahu Invasive Species Committee



LATE

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(808) 672-2180 office ▪ (808) 356-0564 fax ▪ hnl@ablefreight.com ▪ www.AbleFreight.com

HB2426 – Comments

February 1, 2014

Submitted by: Scott Murray, President – Able Freight Services, Inc.

Able Freight Services has been working with the Plant Quarantine staff to develop biosecurity facilities under the Plant Quarantine's biosecurity program. We would like to continue working with Plant Quarantine on these facilities and recommend that biosecurity's transitional facilities are included in the planning analysis for biosecurity facilities, as a whole.

takayama2 -Brandon

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 02, 2014 3:03 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2426 on Feb 3, 2014 10:00AM*

HB2426

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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