

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE

Monday, February 4, 2013
9:30 AM
Hawai'i State Capitol, Auditorium

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 97
RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES

House Bill 97 proposes to create a permit requirement for genetically engineered organisms, to be issued by the Department of Agriculture (DOA). **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) defers to the DOA on this matter and offers the following comments.**

The consideration of this bill should take into account the existing language in Chapter 150A, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), which provides a list of organisms to which the conditions of importation described in that chapter apply. In addition to a number of specific species, the conditions of importation (Section 150A-5, HRS) are also said to apply to "any other plant-growth or plant-product... microorganisms... or any other animal in any stage of development."

With regard to plants, Section 150A-6.1, HRS, requires the Board of Agriculture to maintain a list of restricted plants that require a permit for entry into the State. With regard to animals and microorganisms, Sections 150A-6.2 and -6.3, HRS, require the Board of Agriculture to maintain lists of species that may be permitted into the state, as well as a list of prohibited species. All non-listed species are prohibited until reviewed by the Board.

While the term "import" is defined in Chapter 150A, HRS, "introduction" and "development" are not. The definitions of those terms should be considered carefully prior to amending this chapter.

Further, this bill requires the DOA to inspect, track, review, and permit an additional category of organisms, without providing additional funding or staff resources to achieve this goal. The DLNR defers to the DOA on the utility and feasibility of implementing the requirements described in this bill.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

**TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL KOKUBUN
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Monday, February 4, 2013
Auditorium
9:30 A.M.

**HOUSE BILL NO. 97
RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AGAINST
INVASIVE SPECIES**

Chairperson Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 97. The purpose of this measure is to require a permit from the department of agriculture to import, introduce, or develop a new species of genetically engineered organism. The Department has concerns with this measure.

Following the reductions-in-force in 2009, the Department is challenged with meeting its existing statutory mandates. Furthermore, the Department does not have the expertise to identify and permit new species of genetically engineered organisms.

The department also wishes to point out that the public hearing may need to be expanded to include the University of Hawaii, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the Department of Health to fully determine the "risk presented to agriculture, horticulture, the environment, animal, or public health".

Thank you for this opportunity to present our testimony.



Testimony from: Kauai County Councilmember Gary Hooser

Re: HB97 Agriculture; Genetically Modified Organisms: Quarantine

Hearing: Monday February 4, 2013 Committee on Agriculture

Position: Strong Support – Suggest Amendments

My name is Gary Hooser, I am an elected member of the Kauai County Council and am speaking today on my own behalf as an individual.

I am in strong support of this measure which requires a permit prior to the importation, introduction or development of a new genetically modified organism into the State of Hawaii.

It is important to point out that this measure if passed into law impacts only “new” genetically modified organisms and thus will not significantly affect the existing operations of companies now operating in Hawaii.

The importation, introduction and development of new transgenic life forms into Hawaii's fragile and unique environment deserve the highest level of scrutiny. The jobs and economic activity generated are important components in the decision making however the health and welfare of Hawaii's people and environment must take precedence.

It is a given that lobbyists for the GMO industry and supporters of industrial farming will be submitting testimony claiming that “the sky is falling” and that passage of HB97 will severely and negatively impact their business, cost jobs and drive these companies to other friendlier locations -

However, the requirement of obtaining a permit and undergoing a basic level of review by a State regulatory agency that includes a single public hearing is by no stretch of the imagination an onerous or excessive requirement. Given the potential severity of the consequences should there be accidental release of a new plant or animal transgenic species mutation into our natural environment; I do not believe a single public hearing is too much to ask.

While I strongly support HB97, I also strongly suggest that the measure be amended to explicitly state that as a condition of a permits approval the department shall require a HRS Chapter 343 environmental review demonstrating that there will be no significant environmental impacts and/or recommending adequate mitigation measures to ensure proper environmental protections.

The potential impacts that could result from the importation, introduction and development of new transgenic life forms into Hawaii include impacts on existing endangered species, existing conventional and organic agricultural operations and the health impacts on local residents that may arise from increased use and related testing of pesticides/herbicides.

On Kauai there are presently 4 major companies engaged in the importation, introduction and/or development and propagation of genetically modified organisms. These companies utilize over 12,000 acres for their industrial farming operations focused on the development of transgenic crops, 80% of which are not intended for human consumption. Much of the land in which this activity occurs is in close proximity to the homes of residents and along sensitive coastal areas. The impacts from these industrial farming operations on local residents and on Hawaii's environment has never been properly studied or evaluated. No one really knows the totality of what is being grown or what is being sprayed into the air, onto the soil or what is being washed into our streams and water systems. As a council member on Kauai I am presently asking these questions and though I have been told the information is available and is forthcoming, I have yet to receive anything.

* There are currently two lawsuits pending on Kauai representing over 200 west-side residents alleging negative health impacts from the pesticide laden dust caused by companies engaged in the development of these transgenic crops.

* Less than one year ago there was a "sea urchin die-off" estimated to include over 52,000 sea urchins that occurred in near shore waters that receive the run-off from these operations.

* Students and teachers from the Waimea Canyon School have become ill and been transported by ambulance to nearby hospitals on several occasions. Though no scientific evidence has proved that the illness was a result of the industrial farming of genetically modified organisms, the lands adjacent to the school were at the time of the incidents under the management of these companies.

* The coral reefs surrounding Kauai are presently "sick" and scientific experts are clear that Kauai's near shore water quality is severely degraded with the consensus being it is from a combination of factors that include pesticide and fertilizer run-off.

A growing number of residents from around the state believe that their health and the natural environment of our state is being negatively impacted by the importation, introduction and development of genetically modified organisms and the industrial farming operations that accompany their development.

It is governments' role and fundamental responsibility to protect the health and welfare of the people and of the aina.

The passage of HB97 is a small but significant step toward fulfilling this role and responsibility and I urge the committee to pass this measure and consider the amendment as suggested.

Respectfully,

Gary Hooser
Councilmember
Kauai County

Personal Testimony Presented before the
House Committees on Agriculture
February 4, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.
by
Douglas L. Vincent, Ph.D., P.A.S.

HB 97 – Relating to the Protection of Agricultural Products Against Invasive Species -- OPPOSED

Chair Wooley and Vice-Chair Onishi and members of the committee. My name is Douglas L. Vincent and I serve as Department Chair and Animal Scientist in the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences (HNFAS) at University of Hawaii at Mānoa and in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I am pleased to provide personal testimony on HB 97. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii at Mānoa or HNFAS or CTAHR. I present testimony against Bill 97.

While I believe that it is important to protect Hawaii from invasive species, requiring permits for the importation, introduction or development of new species of genetically modified organisms would have significant and far reaching negative effects on the ability of Hawaii scientists to conduct necessary research to protect the health of Hawaii agriculture, the health of Hawaii residents, and improve the environment. As a 20+ year member of the University of Hawaii Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), I've seen the growing reliance by Hawaii's biomedical research scientists on the use of transgenic mice and rats. These genetically modified organisms are critical to help scientists understand the impacts of chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, heart disease, malaria, cancer, dengue fever and many, many others. The use of these animals is already under the control of the US Public Health Service and USDA APHIS, and the UH Institutional Biosafety and Animal Care Committees.

To create such a requirement would slow needed research, having a chilling effect on biomedical research funding and add to an already overburdened Department of Agriculture to create such a regulatory program.

Blocking the importation, introduction or development of genetically modified organisms does little to protect Hawaii's environment from invasive species.

I urge defeat of this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 8:59 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 8:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: john@eco-living.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Schinnerer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is an obvious and essential step in increasing Hawai'i's protection from invasive, harmful, alien or otherwise inappropriate and unwanted organisms. We are already dealing with far too many such problems. This bill will help reduce future problems.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 12:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: This bill would help to give more transparency to what is being grown and where so that conventional and organic farmers could take appropriate measures to protect their crops and fields from contamination. It is also important that the public is aware of where these crops are grown for greater awareness of any possible health risks they might pose to those living or farming nearby.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 9:57 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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House Bill #97 Relating to the 2013 Protection of agricultural Products Against Invasive Species.

Position: **Oppose**

Submitted By: Robert Paull
5393 Poola Street
Honolulu, HI 96821
<robert.paull@hawaii.rr.com>

Testimony:

I have been a Professor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for more than thirty years in the area of crop production and plant sciences. This testimony is submitted as a private citizen and voter in the City and County of Honolulu, and not as a representative of the University.

It is difficult to respond to this Bill as not justification is given for its submission or what problem is being addressed. The title states that it is to protect agricultural products from invasive species. How this Bill will achieve that goal is a mystery other than to create more work for HIDOA. The Bill gives no guidance as to the type of risks that are potentially possible to justify this requirement and added burden on the HIDOA.

This Bill reminds of the “Red Flag Laws”. A self-propelled vehicle was to be led by a pedestrian waiving a lantern or red flag. A “Red Flag” law was proposed in Pennsylvania for dismantling of the vehicle if it had a chance encounter with livestock - vetoed by the governor.

The scientific consensus is that currently available genetically engineered foods are safe for human consumption and do not impose any greater risk to the environment than varieties developed through other breeding methods. This is backed Scientific Academies and Institutes from around the world. In the US, genetic engineered foods are regarded as safe by the American College of Nutrition, American Council on Science and Health, American Dietetic Association, American Institute of Biological Science, American Medical Association, American Society for Microbiology, American Society of Plant Biologists, Institute of Food Science and Technology and National Academy of Science of the USA to name a few.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 3:00 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gregf@haleakalaranch.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregory Friel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HAWAII ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION

808-969-7789

76-789 'Io Place, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
hofa@hawaiiorganic.org www.hawaiiorganic.org
Toll Free: 1-877-ORG-ISLE (674-4753)

Friday, February 1, 2013

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Matthew Lynch

Walter Ritte

David Santistevan

Dr. Hector Valenzuela

Dr. Melissa Yee

Re: H.B. 97 Relating to the Protection of Agricultural Products Against Invasive Species

Committee Members,

HOFA (Hawaii Organic Farming Association) strongly supports the passage of H.B. No. 97 requiring a permit issued by the Department of Agriculture to introduce or develop a new genetically engineered organism (GMO), and the holding of public hearings prior to the granting of a permit.

HOFA, established in 1994 is an Association of Hawaii organic farmers, distributors, retailers, other organic industry members, and organic consumers. HOFA's vision is to create a sustainable future for Hawaii and our mission is to further organic and sustainable agriculture, land care, and lifestyles in Hawaii, thus giving meaning and life to our state motto: *Ua mau ke ea o ka aina I ka pono* "The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness".

HOFA strongly supports passage of this bill for the following reasons:

1. Under the National Organic Program, genetic modification (commonly known as GMOs) is not approved for use in the production of organic foodstuffs. The production of GMO foods presents the risk of contamination in the growing, processing and handling of organic foodstuffs and thus GMO foods pose an economic threat to organic agriculture and farming.

2. Organic farms close to neighboring GMO fields are at risk of cross pollination and contamination from GMOs causing potential economic loss and hardship to Hawaii's organic farmers.

3. Food production in Hawaii should be moving towards more sustainable (pono or "righteous") methods of agriculture, foods and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GMO foods are moving in the opposite direction and their production results in unnatural foods with unknown long term health and environmental risks, and increased chemical use in the production of food.

4. Hawaii's agricultural lands should be utilized to grow foods for the people of Hawaii (preferably grown using sustainable/organic farming practices), to provide Hawaii with food self-sufficiency/security, they should not be being used as a laboratory to test the growing of GMO crops which do not contribute in any way to food security for Hawaii.

5. GMOs once released into the environment cannot be recalled. The long term impacts of GMOs on the environment and on other species of life, and the ecology, are little understood. Currently GMO companies are free to grow experimental GMO crops in Hawaii

Hawaii Organic Farming Association

Our Vision is to:

Create a sustainable future for Hawaii.

Our mission is to:

*Further organic and sustainable agriculture, land care, and lifestyles in Hawaii, thus giving meaning and life to our state motto:
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HAWAII ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION

808-969-7789

76-789 'Io Place, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
hofa@hawaiiorganic.org www.hawaiiorganic.org
Toll Free: 1-877-ORG-ISLE (674-4753)

with little or no oversight, and without public knowledge. Public hearings and a review by the Department of Agriculture will provide necessary oversight.

Please vote in favor of H.B. No. 97.

Sincerely, Mark Fergusson, President

**2013 Board of
Directors**

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President

Franz Weber
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Matthew Lynch

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Dr. Hector Valenzuela

Dr. Melissa Yee

Hawaii Organic Farming Association

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 2:38 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: RJzack@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roy P Mattos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 4:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Hawaii Catlemen's Council	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

January 31, 2:45 P.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1284

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Chair Solomon, and Members of the Committees:

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, with 10,000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, ***strongly supports*** SB 1284. This measure creates a vision of food self-sufficiency, gives the Department of Agriculture resources to do planning and strategize new solutions, and sets metrics to ensure compliance over time.

The Hawaii State Constitution, article XI, section, is explicit about the need to “conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, [and] increase self-sufficiency.” Despite this rather clear directive, Hawai'i has moved in the wrong direction. We import approximately ninety two percent of our food. Currently, Hawaii has a fresh supply of produce for no more than ten days.

Our current strategy for increasing diversified agriculture and promoting self-sufficiency plainly isn't working. Hawai'i needs to look at new solutions.

SB 1284 sets a new vision. It creates a specific targets and requires annual reporting. A similar concept helped pump prime Hawai'i's clean energy industry. Hawai'i's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards were a key part in starting the clean energy movement. Tangible goals with metrics that define success effectively brought previously bickering parties together to solve Hawai'i's dangerous dependence on foreign oil.

This makes economic sense. Relying on DOA estimates, this concept could generate a billion dollars in new sales for our businesses, stimulate \$300 million in new household earnings, create more than 14,000 new jobs with living wages, and pump \$39 million in new tax revenues into our state coffers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:46 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: MermaidAubrie@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aubrie Allen	Babes Against Biotech	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 10:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bdshafer@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Shafer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:46 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: launahale@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: saws123@myway.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl York	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Monsanto , has been banned in numerous countries around the world , because their biotech products and pesticide use is a menace to all life. They should not be allowed to operate on the planet , definitely not in Hawaii with its unique climate and amazing diversity .

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 6:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wchartman@zoominternet.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cecilia hartman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: it is with much care and consideration for peoples health that these things should be allowed, if at all. I don;t want ANY OF IT! and don't I have that right.!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:50 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Cjumon@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claire Jumonville	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:57 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lotuslover@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
courtney Bruch	GMO Free Maui, GMO Free Oahu, GMO Free Big Island	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:12 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: cidchun@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe this should have been a law from the get go.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 9:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:36 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: denniskleid@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis Kleid	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am not in favor of this permit proposal bill HB97. The idea is excessive since there is not even an example of public harm from GMOs during the last 40 years, since this technology came into being. The definition seems to require a permit even for students to "hands-on" study molecular biology. Although students and researcher are careful with their bacterial genetic creations in the lab and these are carefully disposed of, not released into the environment, none-the-less they are creating new species that may be covered by this proposal permit bill. During the 1970s I began work in this field. I am happy to report that I helped prepare one of the very first "GMOs". In 1979 we created bacteria that produced human insulin using techniques covered by this bill. Human Insulin was prepared and use to treat diabetes from these bacteria by Eli Lilly and Co. For 20 years these very genetically engineered bacteria were used under an agreement with the company Genentech Inc. -- a company I helped to start. During the ensuing 40 years many important developments in medicine and agriculture have derived from these types of studies using newly created and propagated species. You can read world changing biotechnology stories here, mine along with many others: http://www.lifesciencesfoundation.org/oral_histories.html
<http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/hb1t1n98fq/> This bill is the result of unrelenting negative information spread on the Internet and in movies by people with motives that other than the benefit of mankind. Many people have been fooled by these inaccurate accounts. Please do not pass this bill.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: inunyabus@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elaine D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HB97 Requires a permit from the department of agriculture to import, introduce, or develop a new species of genetically engineered organism. Allows the department after a public hearing to determine whether to grant a permit and under what conditions, if any, based on the department's determination of the level of risk presented to agriculture, horticulture, the environment, animal, or public health. The prudent action to take would be to allow no more new introduction of GMO species; importation, introduction, or development. But as this bill is written, in its modest request for sensible environmental protection of Hawaii and the delicate ecosystem through a meager hearing, it would contribute to the dubious nature of GMO operations if this bill were not passed. Please pass HB97.

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Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Seventh Legislature, 2013
State of Hawaii
House conference room Auditorium
Monday, February 4, 2013 9:30 A.M.

A bill for an act
HB 97 Relating to the Protection of Agricultural Products Against Invasive Species

Strongly Oppose HB 97 RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

We **strongly oppose** this bill that will place a requirement for a permit from the Department of Agriculture to import, introduce, or develop a new species of genetically engineered organism. This permit will be allowed by the department after a public hearing to determine whether to grant a permit and under what conditions, if any, based on the department's determination of the level of risk presented to agriculture, horticulture, the environment, animal or public health

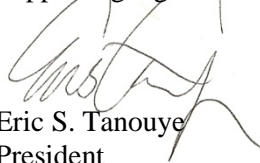
It is important to note that Agriculture is Hawaii's second largest export industry and an important contributor to the state's economic health. To have a sustainable growth of agriculture our industry must continue to reach out to new markets. Floriculture is a non-edible agriculture and we need to be able to compete with a world market. To do this we need to be able to offer the newest colors and varieties as they come to the market. We need to be able to grow varieties that are pest free, long lasting and of top quality.

If a permit system is put into place, this will bring a delay to new varieties and tools that help our farmers keep at the forefront of our industry. The bill regulates all organisms from plant to animal to microorganisms in laboratories (medical research) to commercial plantings and production. To evaluate and determine a finding would cause considerable delays due to the review process. If this initiative is not provided with adequate resources this could place a great burden upon the agricultural sectors.

Farmers from the beginning of time have suffered from pest and disease infestation, and to give up a tool to battle this is questionable at best. Biotechnology is an important part of the future of our Industry and Agriculture as a whole and the farmer should have a say in what he wants to grow.

If you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,



Eric S. Tanouye
President
Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

MONSANTO CO.
94-520 KUNIA ROAD
KUNIA, HAWAII 96759

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 4, 2013
9:30 AM

TESTIMONY ON HB 97
RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and committee members:

My name is Fred Perlak, Vice President of Research and Business Operations for Monsanto Hawaii. We strongly **oppose** HB 97.

Monsanto recognizes the importance of the existing comprehensive and coordinated regulatory program between the state and federal government. We continue to work very closely with the various regulatory agencies to ensure all inspection requirements are addressed. However, we cannot support this measure as it is redundant of existing regulatory requirements and adds additional responsibilities to the Department of Agriculture without adequate resources for implementation. The Department of Agriculture is already under funded and under staffed which will create delays due to this additional review process.

Agricultural biotechnology and research is critical for the growth of Hawaii's agricultural industry. We should encourage agricultural innovation and technology to improve our local production.

Thank you.



Green Point Nurseries, Inc.
www.greenpointnursery.com

Testimony for the Twenty Seventh Legislature, 2013
State of Hawaii
House conference room Auditorium
Monday, February 4, 2013 9:30 A.M.

A bill for an act

HB 97 Relating to the Protection of Agricultural Products Against Invasive Species

**Strongly Oppose HB 97 RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AGAINST
INVASIVE SPECIES**

My name is Harold T. Tanouye and I am the President of Green Point Nurseries, Inc. on the Big Island. My family is in our second generation of agribusiness, a business that produces Hawaii's cut flowers and foliage and tropical blooming plants. Our products are distributed and exported locally, nationally, and internationally. Green Point Nurseries is a charter member of the State of Hawaii's Department of Agriculture, Seal of Quality program.

We **strongly oppose** this bill that will place a requirement for a permit from the Department of Agriculture to import, introduce, or develop a new species of genetically engineered organism. This permit will be allowed by the department after a public hearing to determine whether to grant a permit and under what conditions, if any, based on the department's determination of the level of risk presented to agriculture, horticulture, the environment, animal or public health

It is important to note that Agriculture is Hawaii's second largest export industry and an important contributor to the state's economic health. To have a sustainable growth of agriculture our industry must continue to reach out to new markets. Floriculture is a non-edible agriculture and we need to be able to compete with a world market. To do this we need to be able to offer the newest colors and varieties as they come to the market. We need to be able to grow varieties that are pest free, long lasting and of top quality.

If a permit system is put into place, this will bring a delay to new varieties and tools that help our farmers keep at the forefront of our industry. The bill regulates all organisms from plant to animal to microorganisms in laboratories (medical research) to commercial plantings and production. To evaluate and determine a finding would cause considerable delays due to the review process. If this initiative is not provided with adequate resources this could place a great burden upon the agricultural sectors.

Farmers from the beginning of time have suffered from pest and disease infestation, and to give up a tool to battle this is questionable at best. Biotechnology is an important part of the future of our Industry and Agriculture as a whole and the farmer should have a say in what he wants to grow.

Sincerely,

Harold T. Tanouye
President/Owner
Green Point Nurseries Inc.



76 North King Street, Suite 203
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96817
Phone: 533-3454; E: henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair
Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, February 04, 2013
TIME: 9:30 A.M.
PLACE: Auditorium

HB 97 RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AGAINST
INVASIVE SPECIES.

SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committee

My name is Henry Curtis and I am the Executive Director of Life of the Land, Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for over four decades. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation.

Several years ago we were at a meeting held by the Regents of the University of Hawai`i. The subject matter was a proposed contract between UH and the Navy for secret research to be done at the public university via the establishment of a University Affiliated Research Center (UARC).

At the hearing one scientist stood up and publicly stated he would do anything for money.

Life of the Land researched regulation of transgenic organisms in Hawai`i and was shocked to learn that no permits were needed for on-site genetic engineering. A permit was needed for the import, transportation or export of genetically modified organisms, but not for their creation.

Genetic Engineering scientists shoot genetic material from the DNA of one species into the DNA of another species in the hope of creating new life forms. Most of what they produce is garbage. Some of it is deadly.

Therefore Life of the Land wrote a bill for the regulation of the creation of new life forms. It would have simply required that anyone using transgenetic engineering to create new life forms, from benign forms to highly toxic germs, would need a permit.

The bill died in its first hearing after the biotechnology industry argued that any regulation of their industry would lead down the slippery slope of greater regulation.

Imagine finding a place that protects the mad scientists but does not protect the population that would be impacted. Imagine not needing a permit to produce deadly new organisms that can escape into the environment and potentially pose catastrophic health impacts to the population.

Please pass the bill

Mahalo

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 12:24 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maceyj001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Macey	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I strongly support this bill and I hope that the permit process will include a safety verification. Mahalo

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jtrujill@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james trujillo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jpappas60@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Dear Representatives, I support HB97. Untested genetically-engineered crops have the capability of unwittingly introducing foreign species into Hawaii's fragile environment. Permits for new GE products should be required to prevent any such introduction. Drift from GE crops could also adversely affect organic farming operations in Hawaii, causing potential farmers to go elsewhere due to a potentially hostile environment. It is becoming more and more clear that GM farming is not sustainable (more pesticide is needed not less, more herbicide is needed not less). Hawaii will eventually need to decide which type of agriculture it wants to support. Requiring permits for new GM products will begin to bring transparency to the GM process, making us all more aware of what this new and untested technology might have in store for farmers and consumers. For these reasons I ask for your support of HB97. Thank you for listening.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 12:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:47 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: konanuij001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Konanui	Individual		No

Comments: Aloha mai Kakou, I support HB97, please do the right thing and pass bill HB97. Mahalo Jerry Konanui

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 11:44 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jessicamitchell51@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Mitchell	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: It is clear to me that the Bio- tech companies have no regard for the environment or public health concerns. Please pass HB97 so these companies and their practices can be monitored. Mahalo for considering this testimony in support of HB97

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:46 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 9:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Farmnforages@gmx.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin Mack	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:26 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pauahi.hookano@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
L. Pauahi hookano	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There should be transparency and accountability for corporations who are using hawaii to plant gmo materials here.

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Bill: HB97

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES.

Description: Requires a permit from the department of agriculture to import, introduce, or develop a new species of genetically engineered organism. Allows the department after a public hearing to determine whether to grant a permit and under what conditions, if any, based on the department's determination of the level of risk presented to agriculture, horticulture, the environment, animal, or public health.

Committee: AGR

Hearing Date: 2/4/2013 at 9:30 am

Current Referral: AGR, EEP, FIN

Dear Elected Representatives:

This letter is written in support of HB97 which requires a permit from the department of agriculture to import, introduce, or develop a new species of genetically engineered organism. Allows the department after a public hearing to determine whether to grant a permit and under what conditions, if any, based on the department's determination of the level of risk presented to agriculture, horticulture, the environment, animal, or public health.

This is a critical bill that should have been passed many years ago considering the fact that GMOs are NOT naturally found Hawai'i's environment (or any natural environment for that sake). These unnatural GMO experiments have also proven to infect other farmers' crops as we've seen in the legal battles with Monsanto vs. Schmeiser, the Canadian farmer whose crops were infected by Monsanto's GMO crops. Therefore, it is only prudent to consider such science experiments as an invasive species as such can't possibly be considered as anything else and take steps to prevent the spread and contamination to Hawai'i's natural environment, it's animals who consume such products and most importantly, the health of Hawai'i's people.

The precautionary principle should absolutely be applied to all GMOs.

[From Wikipedia]

“The **precautionary principle** or precautionary approach states if an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing harm to the public or to the environment, in the absence of scientific consensus that the action or policy is harmful, the burden of proof that it is *not* harmful falls on those taking an act.

This principle allows policy makers to make discretionary decisions in situations where there is the possibility of harm from taking a particular course or making a certain decision when extensive scientific knowledge on the matter is lacking. **The principle implies that there is a social responsibility to protect the public from exposure to harm, when scientific investigation has found a plausible risk. These protections can be relaxed only if further scientific findings emerge that provide sound evidence that no harm will result .**

In some legal systems, as in the law of the European Union, the application of the precautionary principle has been made a statutory requirement.^[1] (emphasis added).

Thank you for your consideration of this very important matter.

Sincerely,

L. Kamakanoe Paikuli-Stride (emailed on 2/3/13 at 6:25 a.m.)

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 1:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 7:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: marilynmick@pobox.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Mick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mariyakai@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariya Gold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 12:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maui-martha@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My husband and I are small organic farmers on Maui. The dangers of genetically modified food is just coming to light. It is so important that we identify and control any GMO food coming into our State. I urge you support HB97. Mahalo, Martha Lind Makawao, HI

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:56 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: observing@starband.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mary mcclung	Individual	Support	No

Comments: For instance, perhaps the dept of Ag would have chosen not to allow corn, a crop that readily cross pollinates for miles, to be grown with Hepatitis in the genetics, what do you think? I saw this actual trial as grown on Maui just a few years ago on the APHIS listing, among others including vacinnes and rat genes etc in the local corn crop. Wonder if any of this is present in my seeds today, even though they are organically grown or from UH.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 8:08 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: drmlsukyo@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa L Yee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill to protect agriculture and agriculture products from invasive species. The whole technology of genetic engineering is to insert a foreign gene into a plant or animal, which thereby creates a new species never before existing in nature. For the genetic engineering scientists to claim that GMO has been going on for thousands of years is an outright lie and deception of the public. For 20 years the biotech industry has reeked havoc on nature, the soil, the environment, and a worst case scenario of a revenge of the Planet of the Apes could be in store for this Earth if we continue to experiment with different species, including the human race. This bill can put a stop to the scientists' belief that they are improving on nature and have a right to do so to supposedly feed the world and improve harvests. The poverty and starvation we are witnessing in the world are due to the inequality of distribution of resources and food which have become a commodity to manipulate countries and governments. GMO is hardly the answer, and we need to educate people on the dangers of biotechnology and a need to return to local organic, pesticide and chemical free agriculture to sustain our planet and local population. Hawaii needs to reassert its power as a food producer, not a seed corn exporter and experimental station for corporations exploiting human resources and ideal weather conditions for its own profit. Please support this bill and pass it on to the Senate. Aloha, Melissa L Yee 292-1179

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:20 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: michaelbroady@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Broady Jr.	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha, my name is Michael Broady Jr., I have lived on O'ahu for my entire life of 24 years. I am currently a student at Leeward Community College, and a small organic farmer practicing biodiverse permaculture on limited land. Genetically Modified Organisms need to be treated as an invasive species. Farmers who wish to grow non-GMO corn or papaya are forced to sacrifice their time and money to identify contaminated plants, and must dispose of those contaminated plants. As more plants are genetically engineered, farming by any means other than GMO become cost-prohibitive. This is unjust, and there must be a process for non-GMO farmers to speak against the genetic engineering of new species.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:19 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mbrodle@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mike brodle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To all concerned, Please for the sake of your own family and state do support this bill for our protection! Sincerely. Mike Brodle

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:19 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: foodsovereignty@now@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support this bill HB97 because I feel the import and experimentation of new GMO species need to be regulated and assured with proper authorities that they will not present serious problems to the health of residents and the land.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 7:27 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The "meaning" behind this Bill obviously has good intentions, and of course, it would be best for the fragile lands of Hawai'i NOT to be used for often highly experimental genetically engineered experiments. However, I do think that the USDA/APHIS who controls the permitting process at the federal level and would not allow states this kuleana or process of protection. The Legislature does have the ability to make a statement to APHIS about their thoughts on the subject, and the APHIS representative in Hawai'i Carol Okada at HDOA could also be consulted.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:31 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Paulcarter@tranceandhealing.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Carter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: philipoje@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philip Oje	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT this bill. Common sense. Thank you!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:18 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauka_man808@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Bueller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 8:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nimo1767@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 11:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Petricci	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Feb 4, 2013 11:30 AM Re: HB97 Support with reservations Aloha Chairwoman Wooley I am a small farmer in Pohoiki on the island of Hawaii. I oppose any more introduction of GMO crops into Hawaii. We have huge problems in our environment already in Hawaii, we are in fact the extinction capital of the world. In large part because of introduced species. We seem to have learned very little about unintended consequences of disrupting the natural balance of things here and around the planet that have evolved over many thousands of years. Trying to take short cuts or improve on nature even with the best of intentions has resulted for the most part in unintended impacts that many times are irreversible once the genie is out of the bottle. Small organic farmers are struggling as it is. Any cross contamination even perceived can ruin our hard won markets. The value of my crops are reduced by the introduction of any GMO varieties that contaminate my fields. An existing examples for me is papaya's. I no longer grow them because it is impossible to avoid cross contamination even if I import uncontaminated seed stock, the fruit will be contaminated through pollination. I refuse to hide that from people that buy our produce as many GMO producers do. Our products are sought after because we do not use pesticides, herbicides, GMO's or chemical fertilizers. The least that should be required is objective and independent testing of new GMO species as well as a permit before we risk unleashing things that are not well understood. There are some extremely disturbing indications that GMO crops can pose a danger to our food supply. We should err on the side of caution given Hawaii's poor track record on protecting our resources and environment to date. Some of the largest corporations on the planet (DOW chemical and Monsanto) are spending obscene amounts of money to patent and promote their products. With those kinds of resources in play we should redouble our efforts to go slowly and demand independent, unbiased, testing of any new products these corporations wish to test or grow commercially in Hawaii. We have too much at stake here, and the power of these multinational corporations to influence data and testing can not be underestimated, the consequences could effect our islands for generations in not forever. Most of my neighbors are farmers as well. Competing against the corporate farms is challenging enough for small farmers already. I ask you to be protective of our organic farming communities that produce high quality food here. We live here, we spend our money here, keeping money in our economy. The international corporations pushing these GMO crops have no allegiance to Hawaii. The much of profits they make will leave Hawaii. Any problems corporations, mono cropping, or big ag create like the contamination of our water as we saw with sugar and pineapple stay with us long after they corporations fold or move on. GMO's appear to have the potential to be even more dangerous and should be proven outside Hawaii long before we risk what is left of our environment. Please be cautious, support our growing small farms, and our organic farming communities. I support HB 97 with the reservation that it does not go nearly far enough to assure we protect what is left of our farm

communities and environment. Please help our small farmers, Hawaii needs to be more self reliant and sustainable. Our needs and allegiances are local, support us not off shore corporate interest that see us as a quick buck and really do not care about our people, their allegiance is to their share holders and the bottom line, make no mistake everything else comes second. Thank you Robert Petricci

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REPS. HANOHANO, EVANS, LOWEN
AGRICULTURE
HEARING HB 97 AGR Monday 2/4/13 9:30 AM
TESTIMONY FOR NOT ONLY INSISTING ON SPECIES
PROTECTION FROM, GMO BUT STOPPING GMO GENERALLY.

My name is Ron Carlson. I have practiced dental surgery in Honolulu since 1970. Unexamined “human wisdom” would have us believe that “we most always know what is best for nature and ourselves through our modern science.” You and I know that this is not so, but Corporate America and its State Universities, who wish to “sell” their concepts and products, keep on suggesting and insisting that they have the answers to our problems.

But, they don’t!

Endlessly, and sadly, we have seen the *ill results* of man’s folly, man’s wisdom manipulating our environment. A few examples, if you will, of “the science of man” that is directed by Directive Heads:

- 1) Heptachlor in the 70’s was a huge issue. The experts ensured us, that there would be no problems relating to its use on cane and pine, but it got into the milk of our cows, to the children, and we had an emergency on our hands, did we not? It got into our wells too, and to my knowledge is still present.
- 2) Remember the mongoose? Classically tragic, if not hilarious in a sense. Brought here to quell the rodent population, they were like ships passing in the night, for one operated by day the other by night.
- 3) In global concern and consideration, we now have GMO corn that is programmed for self protection from certain pests, a genetically manipulated “internal insecticide,” but so injures the Monarch Butterfly that it can no longer reproduce, and is having a devastating impact on pollination of crops. A real catastrophe that is unreported.
- 4) The most recent 2 year study from Europe on the ill effects of long term use of GMO feed that showed: It cannot be scientifically denied by Monsanto et al: in a two-year surrogate animal study for humans, showing that Roundup-tolerant GM-Corn has devastating health impacts on female rats by hastening their deaths 2 to 3 times faster; that they developed mammary tumors more often than control rats; that the pituitary was the 2nd most disabled organ; that liver congestion and death were 5.5 times higher; that marked & sever kidney failure was 2.3 times greater; that males had 4 times the tumors of controls; that there were very significant chronic kidney defects; that for both sexes 76% of defective events were kidney related; and, that the endocrine metabolic defects of rats were related to the transgene (genetic material shot into the corn) in the GMO, and the Roundup itself. It takes *genius* to deny the potential ill effects on human health as a result of these studies; and, I am confident the "Big Monte" will respond well in this regard. GMO is not about food. The real question is about our individual-collective health and our precious environment.

These are but a scant view of the thousands upon thousands of Follies.

My purpose in my testimony is to simply point out and recall to our memory man's Follies. This evidence and other testimonial evidence should be sufficient for the passage of this protective measure, keeping our water, land, and food safe; for, are they not all interconnected and interwoven?

But my testimony is not about GMO labelling only.

It is, however, about using the fundamental principle of the "General Welfare" as a guide Light for all legislation.

If, for one instance, you ethically and morally could chance injury to one human being by going along with "chemicallization" of water, or land, or food, then you have "not" upheld your oath to "Preserve and Protect the General Welfare of the People."

GENERAL WELFARE is not a statistic! If 2% of the island population of Hawaii (about 30,000 people) are allergic to fluorine, or some other food modified by genetics—FRANKENFOODS—(A GMO FOOD) and you wrest from the people the ability to choose and further encumber that "non-choice," the oath you took is for naught. One of the 30,000 people, a fellow human being may die, or, experience life long disability due to a vote yea or nay on this issue.

Now, **General Welfare** as expressed in The People's Constitution does not mean a political party's general welfare, nor the government's, nor a racial group's, nor a gender's, nor children's alone, nor the welfare of any special group's alone. But what it does mean is the **GENERAL WELFARE OF EVERYBODY**, THAT IS ALL THE PEOPLE (HOPEFULLY ENVIRONMENT TOO), **BAR NONE!!!**

I urge you to vote for a bill that will insist on labeling and prevent any entity, human or otherwise, from putting any structural substance in our water, food chain, environment that may alter the human being or the Biosphere.

PLEASE, PULL FOR A "LABELLING OF GMO FISH" ON THIS ISSUE.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK AND FOR YOUR LISTENING.

Dr. Ronald S. Carlson
4211 Waialae Avenue
Suite 400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
808-735-0282

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:03 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:05 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: stan@lightingwizards.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB97

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stan Walerczyk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Requiring a permit for GMO foods would be good.

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2/2/13

Aloha Legislatures,

I'm writing in support of HB97 to require a permit to be given after public hearings before GMO are introduced. Of all the States in the Nation, the representatives of our State should already understand what Native Hawaiians have known for hundreds of years. We are intricately connected to the land, the ocean, the planet. Anything introduced to the land, will end up in our bodies, no matter where on the island it is.

It would be greatly irresponsible to allow any kind of GMO to be introduced in our state without having the support and wishes of the public heard first.

Pass HB97 for the health of our state and especially for the future of Hawai'i our innocent keiki who will be effected by our decision to have GMO in our state.

Mahalo,

Summer Faria

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2013 1:27 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: warrenmcfb@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB97 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB97

Submitted on: 2/2/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	mcfb	Oppose	No

Comments:

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