

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor



**SCOTT E. ENRIGHT**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**KEN H. KAKESAKO**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
BUSINESS, AND AGRICULTURE  
FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014  
11:00 A.M.  
Room 312**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2397 SENATE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Chairpersons Tsuji and Wooley and Members of the Committees:

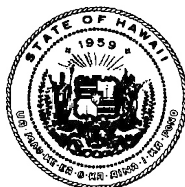
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2397, Senate Draft 2. This bill requires the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) to develop an agricultural technology park on three properties in central Oahu. There is an appropriation to HTDC to establish the park.

In developing the agricultural technology park, HTDC will consult with the Housing Finance and Development Corporation, departments of Agriculture and Education, Agribusiness Development Corporation, and the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The purpose of the Park is to build relationships and promoting collaboration between the agricultural and technology sectors to assist farmers and provide them with tools to succeed in the modern world. The Department of Agriculture supports the measure and defers to the High Technology Development Corporation and the Agribusiness Development Corporation who is in control of the 1,200 acres of agricultural land in central Oahu acquired from the Galbraith Estate.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**WRITTEN ONLY**

Statement of  
**Craig K. Hirai**  
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation  
Before the

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

March 14, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 312

In consideration of  
**S.B. 2397, S.D. 2**  
**RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

The HHFDC **offers the following comments** on S.B. 2397, S.D. 2. HHFDC defers to the High Technology Development Corporation on the overall merits of this bill. However, HHFDC is willing to provide consultation assistance to the High Technology Development Corporation should it be adopted.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on this bill.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI  
Executive Director

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 J. NAKATANI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &  
BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURE

Friday, March 14, 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 312

SENATE BILL NO. 2397, SD2  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairpersons Tsuji and Wooley and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2397, SD2. This bill seeks to establish an Agricultural Technology Park (ATP) under the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC). The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) supports the establishment of an ATP because of the potential impact it could have on leveling the playing field for Hawaii's agricultural related industries.

The Whitmore Project includes the creation of a high technology industry and designating certain properties as potential sites to establish an ATP makes sense.

ADC has recently acquired former plantation land and facilities in Wahiawa to create an agricultural hub in Central Oahu as well as created an MOU with the HTDC signed on August 13, 2013 to work together to realize an agricultural utopia. An ATP

would add another layer to the ongoing efforts by many to create jobs and reduce the overhead cost for agricultural operations and related activities.

As Hawaii transitions from a mono cropping plantation system into diversified farming, our value-added and support businesses must remain competitive in order to venture in today's global marketplace. This bill provides a tool to help farmers incorporate high technology in their farming operations by keeping the cost down for ag-related operations that would benefit from using high technology Apps for food safety and production, the industry could become more sustainable and self sufficient in the islands. Additionally, this bill further allows HTDC to create incentives to attract high-tech companies to help modernize the agriculture industry.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**March 14, 2014**

Before the House Committee on Economic Development & Business, and The Committee on Agriculture

***Re: Supporting Testimony to SB2397 SD1 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT***

Dear Chairs Clift Tsuji, Jessica Wooley and Committee Members:

The WCBA strongly supports the development of an agricultural technology park

The State made a brilliant move when it acquired the parcels of lands near Whitmore Village which have the infrastructure and warehouse facilities that can support nearby farms to store and process agricultural products.

Establishing an agricultural technology park makes a lot of sense. The agricultural technology park will provide the knowledge and skills for farmers to select, install and maintain agricultural technology equipment.

The WCBA wants to ensure that the private sector technology and know-how is harnessed to help our farms to become a spearhead for agricultural growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The park with the support of the private sector, the State and the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture can provide technological expertise in areas such as global positioning systems (GPS), soil sampling, and mapping systems, and computer software.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Walter R. Benavitz Jr.".

Walter R. Benavitz Jr.  
WCBA Government Action Committee Chair

Wahiawa Community & Business Association  
P. O. 861408  
Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786

**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2014 12:55 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** jeannine@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/12/2014

Testimony for EDB/AGR on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeannine Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I would support this bill if GMOs were not the intended use, which this obviously is because it has the standard GMO language to "assist farmers and provide them with tools to succeed in the modern world." As if farmers didn't succeed for centuries before without them.

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**ward2-Robin**

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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2014 2:35 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** highwayresponse@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM\*

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/12/2014

Testimony for EDB/AGR on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alison Dela Pena	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB 2397sd2, Relating to Economic Development  
House EDB/AGR Hearing  
Friday, March 14, 2014  
11:00 am  
Conference Room 312

Testimony by: Larry Jefts  
Position: Support

Chairs Tsuji and Wooley, and Members of the House EDB/AGR Committees:

I am Larry Jefts, co-owner of Sugarland Growers, Inc., a family run farm with more than 35 years experience of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu.

Appreciation is expressed for the continued discussion of this measure. We support SB2397sd2, which seeks to establish an agricultural technology park that can bridge the agricultural and technology gap and be used to provide agritourism benefits. A coordinated plan for such an agricultural technology park will enable farmers to access technology to keep farm practices in step with contemporary market and regulatory demands.

Your support of this measure is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony. I can be reached at (808) 688-2892 if there are any questions.

Sugarland Growers Inc.  
P.O. Box 27, Kunia, Hawaii 96759  
Tel: (808) 688-2982 Fax: (808) 682-2894



**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2014 5:32 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** alex.kanamu@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM\*

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/12/2014

Testimony for EDB/AGR on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alex Kanamu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 10:03 AM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** paulakomarajr@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB/AGR on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this Bill 2397 for the reason that I do not trust the judgment or actions of the Sponsors of this Bill. Corporations are not people. Money is not free speech. I implore the Sponsors to cease and desist from forcing corporate greed on We The People of Occupied Hawaii. I oppose any and all Bills and action of the Sponsors. Aloha, Paul

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Written Statement of  
**ROBBIE MELTON**  
**Executive Director & CEO**  
High Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS  
AND  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Friday, March 14, 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312  
In consideration of

**SB 2397 SD2 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

Chairs Tsuji and Wooley, Vice Chairs Ward and Onishi, and Members of the Committees on Economic Development & Business and Agriculture.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) **supports the intent** of SB 2397 SD2 relating to Economic Development. HTDC supports the intent to nurture and grow agricultural innovation and supporting startups and businesses in this arena.

HTDC's Innovate Hawaii program offers business support to manufacturers that would have synergies with an agricultural tech park. HTDC has statute to develop technology parks through HRS 206M-2 paragraph (1) and suggest section 3 of this bill is redundant and unnecessary. HTDC does not have resources to explore private sector partnerships in this area.

Though we support the intent of this measure, HTDC will need \$500,000 to research and build expertise in this focus area, dedicate resources to explore partnership opportunities, and solicit proposals to ensure the best use of State resources. This would be a project specific appropriation and should not replace or adversely impact the Administration's budget request. Without appropriation HTDC suggests that our agency would be best suited in a support role for this initiative, as part of a planning committee providing expertise in establishing technology parks and in entrepreneurship, rather than revising the HRS 206M.

HTDC does not offer comment on the location selected as identified by the TMK (71002004, 71002023, and 71002099 in Whitmore Village).

<http://gis.hicentral.com/FastMaps/ParcelZoning/>



Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



**LATE**

P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 14, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 2397, SD2  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Room 312  
11:00 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Ward, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committees:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB 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.

**HFB stands in strong support of SB 2397, SD2**, that creates an agricultural technology park under the high technology development corporation, within DBEDT. Hawaii Farm Bureau applauds the sponsors of this measure and offers the following comments.

We respectfully request that Hawaii Farm Bureau be specifically added to the list of agencies cued for consultation. The list, while not limited, identifies only government agencies. Government talking with government is typically not the best way to solve modern technological problems. Some of the most widely used and successful technologies are products of the private sector. Consultation with practical users of agricultural technology may reveal that the 'technology gap' is not as wide as the legislation suggests. Moreover, direct interaction with agricultural producers that need and ultimately would use technologies developed through this agricultural technology park is a link that is crucial to the success of the project. This is a prime example of an opportunity for public-private partnership.

**Please include the following amendment:**

**§206M- Guidelines.** (a) The board shall develop the agricultural technology park in consultation with but not limited to the following agencies: Hawaii housing finance and development corporation, department of agriculture, department of education,

agribusiness development corporation, and University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources, and Hawaii Farm Bureau.

We look forward to working together to further develop this initiative.

Please pass **SB 2397, SD2 as amended**.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.

**LATE**

ward2-Robin

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 14, 2014 5:01 AM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** brian@hbf.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM  
**Attachments:** SB 2397, SD2, agricultural technology park EDB\_AGR 03\_14\_14.docx

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for EDB/AGR on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Miyamoto	Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 7:03 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** roslynn61@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM\*

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB/AGR on Mar 14, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roslynn Pascua	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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