

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 S. KOKUBUN
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE**

**MARCH 11, 2013
8:30 A.M.
ROOM 312**

**SENATE BILL NO. 753, S.D. 2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chair Wooley and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 753, S.D. 2. The purpose of this bill is to allow the department of agriculture (department) to enter into leases with the agribusiness development corporation. The department supports the intent of this bill.

The promotion and growth of agriculture in the state is a key component to reduce our reliance on imported food. The department believes that this bill will provide another tool to reach our food security goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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
AGRICULTURE AND WATER & LAND

Monday, March 11, 2013
8:40 a.m.
Conference Room 312

SENATE BILL NO. 753, SD 2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons Wooley and Evans and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 753, SD 2. This bill authorizes the department of agriculture (HDOA) to dispose of lands and negotiate and enter into leases with the agribusiness development corporation (ADC). The bill also exempts non-agricultural parks lands disposed to ADC from section 166-8(b) (2) and (5), HRS. ADC supports this bill.

ADC's mission is to create a vehicle and process to make optimal use of agricultural assets such as land and infrastructure. This bill seeks to allow HDOA to lease lands under its control to ADC for the purpose of administering a cooperative and comprehensive agribusiness development program to provide options for farmers to access land, help create jobs in the agricultural industry, and reduce our state's dependence on imported foods.

While ADC supports any measure that can enhance the State's agricultural production, we defer to HDOA with regards to the specifics of how this disposition provision would be set up.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

March 10, 2013

Committees on Agriculture and on Water & Land:

Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 753 SD2 which allows the Department of Agriculture to "**dispose**" of any state-owned agriculture land that is not declared an agricultural park to the existing Agribusiness Development Corporation.

This is NOT a good bill for the people of Hawaii.

I support bills that would help small farmers to get long-term leases. I support food and farm bills that INCREASE the wholesome Hawaii-grown food that you and I can eat, and DECREASE the use of poisons, herbicides, and pesticides.

But on Kauai, ADC has already given leases to large agribusiness corporations such as Dow, Syngenta, Pioneer which do NOT grow food that you and I can eat. These are businesses that INCREASE use of poisons, herbicides, and pesticides. They do not sell their produce in our state so do NOT PAY General Excise Tax. They use their lands for chemical experiments, testing how much herbicide can be applied before the plants are killed.

ADC's purpose is SUPPOSED to be to make optimal use of agricultural assets for the economic, environmental, AND social benefit of the people of Hawaii. Please NOTE the "AND" – NOT any one of those three, but all THREE together. But ADC's actions on Kauai would seem to me to only target economic benefit (for whom?) and NOT environmental OR social benefit for the vast majority of people with no vested interests.

Land under ADC control is exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules of any governmental agency relating to planning, zoning, construction standards, development and improvement of land, and the construction of buildings..." (HRS 166-4 Park development)

Under ADC there is **no public auction process**, as is required for agricultural land under DOA or DLNR control. Therefore, SMALL FARMERS ARE UNABLE to bid for the use of state agriculture land.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL because it gives ADC too much power to act in the best interests of giant biotech agribusinesses and NOT in the best interests of us, the vast majority of people of Hawaii.

PLEASE do NOT pass this bill.

Wynnie Hee
95-1523 Ainamakua Dr #93
Mililani HI 96789
808-782-0745

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 10:36 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: TABRAHAM08@GMAIL.COM
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
TROY ABRAHAM	Individual	Support	No

Comments: i support agriculture groups upgrade

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 10:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Tree@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Luksic	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is flawed and goes against public benefit. It appears to be similar to the PLDC, which is abusive and will lead to corruption and cronyism.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:48 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: simonrussell2012@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill. The ADC was originally formed to take care of the abandoned watershed systems left behind by former plantation owners who long term leased from the State. With the end of the plantation era, the ADC is also supposed to help transition to the diversified agriculture Hawaii desperately needs. This has not happened, so transferring more authority to them is not going to help our food security, which is what our agricultural policy should focus on in my opinion. Respectfully Submitted, Simon Russell Owner Hui 'O Malama 'Aina Landscaping

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 1:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sarahkauai@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sarah smith	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Stop leasing to companies that use very damaging chemicals. It's not worth it! People are getting sick and long-term damage is being done to the environment. There are other solutions, if it's money you want. Please enough of the raping of the 'aina.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: Robert Petricci [nimo1767@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:26 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: waltestimony; FINTestimony
Subject: Testimony SB753 SD2

AGR/WAL 312 Mar 11, 2013 8:40 AM

RE: SB753

Position: Strong Opposition

Representing Puna Pono Alliance

Aloha:

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair AGR, Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair and committee members.

Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair WAL, Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair.

Puna Pono Alliance ask you to join us in Opposing SB753.

Please support our position in opposition to the issue of disposing of our public lands and or trying to circumvent the existing laws put in place to protect the public good. Our public resources should not be squandered without due diligence, consideration and public input. The remaining public lands including park lands should be guarded as the gems that they are, not seen as a budget gap measure or corporate motivator for a short term gain. These lands are for our future generations and should be protected as such, why are those pushing this type of legislation afraid of following the process developed to safe guard these lands? We need more protections of our dwindling assets and resources not less.

Robert Petricci
President Puna Pono Alliance

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 9:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ramona@lava.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ramona Hussey	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I cannot support ANY bills which proposed to dispose of ANY public lands without FULL public hearings and intense consideration of what the bills really will do. Anything by Delacruz is automatically suspect. Please vote against this bill. If it is a good one, then what's the rush? Hold a fully informative hearing next session. This is NOT the time to attempt to exempt ANY public lands without scrutiny.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:02 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rangien2010@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
PuananiRogers	Ho`okipa Network -Kauai	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 9:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: skysonghealing@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Solomon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The ADC lacks proper standards for protection of our public lands: no EIS, no EA, control title with rights to buy, sell and lease. We should not have employees of biotech companies on the ADC board, as this is a conflict of interest.(Monsanto leases 56% of state agricultural lands.) We should not be releasing our public trust lands including it ag portfolio, but should be using them for the benefit of all Hawaiian citizens.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 10:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: psgegen@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pat gegen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Bad Policy / legislation.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 10:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: foodsovereignty@now@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:27 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mzerbe808@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Zerbe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 10:35 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: barklessbrats@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louise Butler	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:47 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Lauryn@poai.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauryn Galindo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Dear Representatives:

I urge you to oppose **SB 753 SD2** RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

SB 753 SD2 allows the DOA (Department of Agriculture) to "**dispose**" of any state-owned agriculture land that is not declared an agricultural park to the existing ADC (Agribusiness Development Corporation).

Under HRS (Hawaii Revised Statutes) 171-2 definition, agriculture land under ADC's control is **not public land**.

HRS 171-2 "**Public lands**" means all lands or interest therein in the State...**except:** (10) "lands that are set aside by the governor to the agribusiness development corporation; lands **leased to the agribusiness development corporation by any department or agency of the State...**"

Land under ADC control is exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules of any governmental agency relating to planning, zoning, construction standards, development and improvement of land, and the construction of buildings..." (HRS 166-4 Park development)

Under ADC there is **no public auction process**, as is required for agricultural land under DOA or DLNR control. Therefore, small farmers are unable to bid for the use of state agriculture land.

Since lands under ADC's control are not considered public land, ADC is not required to hold public auctions for available ag land but can directly negotiate leases for ag land.

On Kauai, ADC has given leases to large agribusiness corporations such as Dow, Syngenta, Pioneer.

ADC's purpose is to make optimal use of agricultural assets for the economic, environmental, and social benefit of the people of Hawaii.

Please oppose **SB 753 SD2**.

Sincerely,

Lauren Armstrong
Community and Environmental Planner

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 5:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: momo.modus@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 4:05 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Kealii8@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kealii Makekau	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 10:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: karly.williams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karly Williams	Babes Against Biotech	Oppose	No

Comments: A'OLE PONO!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 6:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Karen@RedwoodGames.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Chun	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Come on Sen Dela Cruz - quit trying to resurrect the PLDC under another name. So corrupt you guys are. You are making us lose respect for the legislature always trying to sneak another PLDC law through when you KNOW the voters have overwhelmingly voiced their opposition to this kind of sell-out of our public lands.

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: naldajw@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JW Nalda	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: juliahorn1@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Horn	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: holly@hollylazo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Holly Lazo	Kauai Island Vacations, Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments:

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March 11, 2013

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair
Rep. Richard Onishi, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair
Rep. Nicole Lowen, Vice Chair

SB 753 SD2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Committee Chairs and members:

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a statewide land and water advocacy organization, strongly opposes SB 753 SD2 that authorizes the DOA to dispose of lands and negotiate and enter into leases with ADC.

SB 753 SD2 is an exemption bill with a twist.

SB 753 SD2 grants DOA the authority to "disposed" of *non-agricultural park land*, which is **ALL** State owned land designated agriculture, to ADC. Once agriculture land is transferred to ADC's control that land shall be "...exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules of any governmental agency relating to planning, zoning, construction standards, development and improvement of land, and the construction of buildings..." (HRS 166-4 Park development)

Even worse lands under ADC control are no longer considered public lands.

Under HRS 171-2 Definition of public lands, lands under ADC are not considered public. "Public lands" means all lands or interest therein in the State...except: (10) "lands that are set aside by the governor to the agribusiness development corporation; lands leased to the agribusiness development corporation by ay department or agency of the State..." (HRS 171-2)

In other words under SB 753 SD2 the DOA could simply "dispose" of publically owned non-agricultural park land to ADC under which public lands will no longer be public land as defined in HRS 171-2 and will be exempt from all types of statutes, ordinances, charter provisions etc.

In addition, because agricultural lands under ADC are not public land ADC is no required to hold public auctions but instead can directly negotiate leases for agricultural land.

SB 753 SD2 is a land grab of agricultural land for the benefit of a few, as seen on Kauai where ADC has given leases to large agribusiness corporations such as Dow, Syngenta, and Pioneer at the expense of many local farmers who are unable to bid for state agricultural lands.

SB 753 SD2 is not in the interest in furthering the goals of more diversified agriculture with local crops being grown for local consumption and increasing food security. and must be held in committee.

SB 753 SD2 is no in the public's best interest and must be held in committee.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gail@waileaescape.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gail Dornstreich	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Do not allow ag lands to be developed ever. At some time in the future it will be too late to gain them back and support our population and agricultural industry.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 6:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: akamaimom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The Agribusiness Development Corporation is Exhibit A against the PLDC. It has largely handed over the prime agriculture lands to the Chemical companies to for export products, that contaminate the land, ocean and air. Absolutely NOT. Do not trust the ADC to make responsible se of our prime ag lands for feeding our islands. I strongly oppose this bill.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ev@kevcom.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evan Tector	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, Agriculture lands are the future of Hawaii sustainability, health, culture and economy. This session people have spoken up against creating agencies and processes that remove public lands from public use, circumvent public input and control and favor big offshore pesticide intensive use corporations over development of non-toxic sustainable local agriculture and land uses. This bill completely fails to hear the public outcry or learn from everything PLDC like that has caused so much distress and erosion of trust with the legislature. Fortunately many of you get this and have heard the outcry and done the right things. Unfortunately some legislators are on a mission to implement these processes against the public trust in every area where they have power and influence. Please do not let this bill and any others like it become the legacy of the Senate when the dust settles from this session. We are so close to being able to say that the Senate listened and responded to the public. Mahalo for your consideration and good judgement. Hawaii's ag lands must become resources for local families, communities and businesses so we can produce our own food and create 10,000 healthy ag jobs, not a mere 1,500 created by the offshore huge lease companies that spray poison and destroy the soils. Keep Hawaii Ag lands in public inventory and control. Mahalo.

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I am testifying in opposition to Hawai'i state bill SB753.

This bill is absolutely appalling in every way.

First of all, the majority of Hawai'i citizens support a sustainable local agriculture. Big Agribusiness corporations, although filed under the term "Ag" are merely profiteering chemical producers. These chemicals are being tested without regard to the affects on the land and our people. This bill is actually saying that it's okay for them to be irresponsible and our government doesn't even want to know what they are up to and the damages they are certainly causing. Our reefs and ocean life dependent on the reefs are DYING EN MASSE!!!! Our children here in Waimea (Kaua'i) are drinking ATRAZINE in their schools' water fountains!!! And this bill is allowing the corporate chemical farming to do this with a pat on the back!!!

I just watched a video, recorded today, Sunday March 10, 2013, in Molokai after the rain, of the chemicals running off Monsanto's testing fields into the streams where our people swim and fish because proper precautions are not in place. Do you want to know what you are ingesting with your fish or what is in the water that you swim in? How about Atrazine and the likes of Agent Orange? Well if this bill passes, they don't have to tell you. Not that they will anyway, because that's been proven already when our own council member was denied this information.

I assure you that the people of Hawai'i are waking up to the deceit and bad practices of the big agribusiness as well as the politicians in their pockets. Our votes are growing in number so I implore you to be the caretaker of these precious and irreplaceable lands, represent the people and not the corporate dollars.

VOTE NO on SB753.

Mahalo,
Elizabeth Reeves
96746

Elaine Dunbar
POB 861
Lihue, HI 96766
inunyabus@gmail.com
February 26, 2013

SB753 SD1: RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Department of Agriculture; Disposition of Lands; Agribusiness Development Corporation

Authorizes the department of agriculture to dispose of lands and negotiate and enter into leases with the agribusiness development corporation. Exempts non-agricultural parks lands disposed to the agribusiness development corporation from section 166-8(b)(2) and (5), HRS. (SD1)

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

I am testifying in **OPPOSITION** to **SB753 SD1**. This approves selling, leasing, trading, alienating, holding public lands, SECTION 2. (1).

- **DOA is not the LUC, BLNR nor DLNR and has no authority to ‘dispose’ of lands.**

The ‘public’, ‘ceded’, former Hawaiian Government, Crown, all Hawaii’s lands, national lands are to remain shielded from encumbrance until the status of the Hawaiian sovereignty is determined.

It is bad enough that huge tracts of acreage are foolishly given to the Agribusiness for little or no money in rents and leases already. This is not being fiscally responsible with Hawaii’s land and resources. In Hawaii NO land should be "disposed of" as it is not yours to give away. As well, GMO agribusiness does not fall into the category of a highest and best use.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 4:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dan.marks99@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Marks	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 12:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peacesubhadra@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
D. Corcoran	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peepail@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Kasak	Occupy Monsanto (OWS~Maui)	Comments Only	No

Comments: The thing to remember in this testimony (SB753) is that DOA is unlawfully authorizing themselves to have jurisdiction such as BLNR, LUC, DLNR.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Cjmellor626@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CMellor	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 9:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: shanebridget@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bridget Tampus	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 1:27 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Bmurphy420@mail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: apohi21@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bill brown	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 1:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: barbarapolk@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara B. Polk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. The Agriculture Development Corporation was expanded two years ago as a mini-PLDC, with the right to sell or lease public lands without public input and without following most of the state and county regulations and procedures that would otherwise have protected the public interest. It is very disturbing to see the large number of these private corporations being created by the legislature in the past few years to by-pass the public and with little or any public oversight. This bill would transfer public lands for disbursement by the ADC. Do not allow this to happen. As Charles Pierce wrote in Esquire, regarding the new Wisconsin law regarding mining: "They gave away public lands to this company while arranging that the political entity known as the state of Wisconsin, and therefore the people they ostensibly represent, would be unable to protect themselves from the damage the company will do. Self-government, and the political commonwealth that arises from it, is just something else gouged out of Wisconsin for a buck. This is astonishing. This is something that happens in China." Don't let Hawaii become another Wisconsin--or China. Please defeat this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 3:02 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Borgnino@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Borgnino	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please don't pass this bill. It is not environmentally sound and doesn't give the public enough input on each project.

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 10:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: barb@punapono.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barb Cuttance	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please hold this Bill.

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:44 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: arnoldkotler@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arnold Kotler	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: athurston@irmt.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne Thurston	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: anneu11@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM*

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Eu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 1:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: angelavideotron@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB753 on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM

SB753

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for AGR/WAL on Mar 11, 2013 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Breene	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, I urge you to oppose SB753 which will transfer DLNR land into the ADC. The Agricultural Development Corporation is just another version of the PLDC and totally lacks accountability. This state needs food security now. I suspect that the transfer of lands via SB753 will result in even more acres of chemically intensive agriculture by biotech companies. Currently biotech/chemical company Monsanto leases 56% of all State Ag lands statewide and 2 ADC Board members are employees of Biotech companies. We are not interested in releasing our rights to protect public trust lands including agricultural lands. Please oppose the Ag version of the PLDC SB753. Mahalo, Angela Breene Haleiwa, HI

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