

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 SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2013
1:15 P.M.
Room 229**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34 PROPOSED SD1
REQUESTING STUDIES RELATING TO THE RESEARCH OF ISSUES ARISING
FROM THE POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION OF A GENETICALLY MODIFIED
ORGANISMS LABELING OR RIGHT-TO-KNOW REGIMEN**

Chairpersons Nishihara and Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Concurrent Resolution 34 Proposed SD1. The purpose of this resolution is to have research done on issues arising from the potential implementation of a genetically modified organisms (GMO) labeling or right-to-know-regimen. The Department appreciates the efforts by the legislature to quantify the effects that GMO labeling would have on the state and would ask that resources be allocated to the Department to carry out this effort.

Given the enormity of the task at hand and the Department's lack of experience with the technical details revolving around GMO, resources and time are required to fully meet the provisions of the resolution. Testing at the genetic level and generating the detailed cost analyses as requested are beyond the capabilities of the Department and would require the necessary assistance from the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: Warrenmcfb@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR34 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2013 4:40:04 AM

SCR34

Submitted on: 3/28/2013

Testimony for AGL/CPN on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Mcfb	Support	No

Comments: We respectfully ask that items suggested by HFBF be included Thank you

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Cindy Goldstein, Ph. D
Business and Community Outreach Manager
DuPont Pioneer
Waialua Parent Seed, Kekaha Parent Seed
Kunia Research Center, Waimea Research
PO Box 520
Waialua, HI 96791

SCR 34,SD1
Studies Relating to Labeling of Genetically Modified Organisms
Senate Committees on Agriculture, and Commerce and Consumer Protection
March 28, 2013
State Capitol Room 229 at 1:15 pm

Position: Support

Chairs Nishihara and Baker, Vice Chairs Kouchi and Galuteria, and Members of the Senate Committees

DuPont Pioneer supports SCR 34 S.D.1, calling for studies related to issues arising from the potential implementation of labeling of genetically modified organisms.

DuPont Pioneer is a seed company with operations in four locations in Hawaii. We carry out plant breeding work at our 2 Hawaii research sites to develop crops with improved characteristics including greater insect and disease resistance and higher yields. Breeding for disease and insect resistance reduces the use of pesticides. Our two parent seed locations multiply seed to develop new hybrids and varieties that are more productive for farmers in the US and around the world. DuPont Pioneer employs approximately 350 people in a wide range of types of jobs on Oahu and Kaua'i.

DuPont Pioneer strongly believes in the importance of research and innovation to develop crops that bring benefit to farmers around the world and to consumers. Our work is science-based and we support the study of the long term safety of genetically engineered crops and food ingredients.

The introduction of new genetically engineered crops follows years of evaluation and testing under a robust regulatory system. Establishing labeling of meat, raw produce, and food ingredients involves significant infrastructure, development of processes and management practices, and oversight. Federal agencies already have well established regulatory roles regarding genetically engineered crops and foods.

The economic effects on Hawaii's consumers, agriculture and commerce should be better understood and investigated in greater depth.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti

SCR 34 – Requesting studies related to GMO food labeling

The Senate Committees on Agriculture and Commerce and Consumer Protection

Thursday, March 28, 2013

1:15 p.m., Room 229

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Alicia Maluafiti

Position: Support

Aloha Chairs Nishihara and Baker, vice chairs and members of the Committee:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, a nonprofit trade association representing Hawaii seed farmers. We support SCR 34 requesting studies related to GMO food labeling.

We applaud the Senate's response to the controversy around the labeling of genetically engineered food by first seeking scientific fact by credible, reliable, respected and published sources. It's time for Hawaii to move beyond the threats and intimidation used by those pushing an anti-science activists. We believe all the agencies listed in the resolution are important to carrying out this important task.

HCIA looks forward to seeing the results of the research and hopes that this resolution will help the state move forward as a center of excellence in agricultural biotechnology.

Mahalo.

91-285 Fort Weaver Rd.

ʻEwa Beach, HI 96706

Tel: (808) 224-3648

director@hiaonline.com

www.hciaonline.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: matt_lopresti@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR34 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2013 6:43:39 AM

SCR34

Submitted on: 3/28/2013

Testimony for AGL/CPN on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew LoPresti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: Mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR34 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM
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SCR34

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Testimony for AGL/CPN on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: I support the measure with the inclusion of language proposed by HFBF

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Cc: robert.paull@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR34 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 5:01:50 PM

SCR34

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for AGL/CPN on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: As a faculty member at UHM for 33 years working in the area of plant science, I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen. This Resolution is a step in the right direction to get around the misinformation, and abuse and misuse of science provided to the citizens of this Hawaii on genetic engineering. This abuse of science is seen in the failure to compare the risks and benefits of all breeding approaches, selectively presenting the findings from published scientific literature, repeating claims of research conclusions that have subsequently proven wrong and ignoring the large body of scientific papers that show the GE crops are as safe as foods already on sale. The major misunderstanding is that science can prove a food is safe. If there is a safe food on the supermarket shelves then it would be very interesting to see the supporting data for that claim, if any?

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: watsonblake8@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR34 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 8:23:19 PM

SCR34

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for AGL/CPN on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Blake Watson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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