



LATE

The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

SENATOR MALAMA SOLOMON, Ph.D.

March 17, 2014

TO: Senator Clarence Nishihara
Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support
Mr. Richard Ha
Nominee to the Board of Agriculture

Aloha Kakou:

I have known Richard Ha for many years and I speak in strong support of his nomination to the Board of Agriculture. Richard Ha is an outstanding farmer and approaches Agriculture from a holistic point of view.

The challenges that face the agricultural business in Hawai'i are daunting. This is why we need Richard Ha's leadership. His community involvement has given him in-depth knowledge of how the government, public, and private sectors cooperation is necessary so we can decrease our dependency on imported food and increase our local food production. In fact, if we were able to increase our local food production by 10 percent, two hundred million dollars plus would remain in our local economy.

Richard Ha's willingness to serve has caused him to suffer unwarranted insults from a Senator of this body, publicly and privately. I have attached the Hawaii Tribune Herald article dated March 22, 2014 which quotes the Senator "If any of you share my revulsion at Richard Ha being appointed to the State Ag Board, it's not too late to do something." These falsehoods have targeted Mr. Ha's pro-active positions and his strong avocation for the furtherance of geothermal energy development on the Island of Hawai'i. Why, these negative remarks? Because geothermal energy development would reduce the electricity costs substantially, this is a key to accelerate local food production within our state.

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I strongly support Richard Ha's nomination, he is a resident of my 4th Senatorial district and I will continue to work with him to bring about positive solutions that will increase our local food production on the Island of Hawai'i and throughout the State.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malama Solomon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Malama Solomon, Ph.D.

4th Senatorial District

(Hilo, Hāmākua, Kohala, Waimea, Waikoloa, Kona)

LATE

Ruderman fights Ha's ag appointment

By TOM CALLIS Tribune-Herald staff writer

March 22, 2014 - 1:01am

A Big Island state senator has started an email campaign seeking to stop colleagues from reappointing Richard Ha to the state Board of Agriculture.

"If any of you share my revulsion at Richard Ha being appointed to the State Ag Board, it's not too late to do something," Sen. Russell Ruderman said in the email sent March 13 on his personal account.

Ha, owner of Hamakua Springs Country Farms, has been at odds with Ruderman over issues of genetically modified crops and geothermal energy. Ha also criticized Ruderman in Hawaii media for supporting legislation against transgenic food, known commonly as genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, while owning natural food stores on the Big Island.

In the email, Ruderman, D-Puna, touched on those issues.

"Mr. Ha is pro-GMO, pro-geothermal and tried to accuse me of conflict of interest for speaking out," he said.

"Please spread the word. If each senator gets 100 emails in opposition this will not fly."

Ruderman, who owns Island Naturals, told the Tribune-Herald the email was intended for those with "concerns about his appointment." He said he did not expect the email to be seen by the general public and was not ready to make a statement on the issue.

"I think I'm shooting myself in the foot by saying anything at this point and time," he said.

But Ruderman added the email was not about a "personal vendetta or the way he attacked me publicly."

Ha, who has been the Big Island's representative on the board for one term, said he was surprised to hear about the email.

"Sen. Ruderman is so determined, he's so anti-GMO that he's losing all sense of perspective to me," he said.

Ha characterized his stance on genetically altered crops as "pro-science" and said his views on the issue should not disqualify him for the position.

"I'll go where the science takes me," said Ha. "If GMO is not supported by science, I'd change."

While a supporter of genetically modified agriculture, Ha does not grow transgenic crops.

Ha, who addresses issues of food security and energy on his blog, is a founding member of the pro-GMO Hawaii Farmers and Ranchers United.

Gov. Neil Abercrombie nominated Ha for reappointment to the board.

Ha said his term ends in June. If reappointed, his term would last until June 30, 2018.

The Senate must approve the nomination, which the Senate Committee on Agriculture will first consider.

A staff member for Sen. Clarence Nishihara, the committee's chairman, said the office has received emails opposing Ha's nomination but they cannot be considered as testimony since the matter has not been scheduled for a hearing.

Email Tom Callis at tcallis@hawaiitribune-herald.com.

The HAWAII PAPAYA INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
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SUPPORT FOR RICHARD HA, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE FOR the BOARD of AGRICULTURE

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Members of the State of Hawai'i Senate Agriculture Committee

WE, of the HAWAI'I PAPAYA INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION, 150 + MEMBERS, SUPPORT THE NOMINATION OF RICHARD HA TO THE STATE of HAWAI'I BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

A representative of the Board of Hawai'i agriculture for the past term Richard has proven himself worthy of being appointed for a second term to continue to do his best to protect agriculture in Hawai'i with the interests of the people of Hawai'i foremost in his heart.

He is a true entrepreneur having his beginnings in banana to owning a successful and thriving hydroponic tomato farm business, Hamakua Springs Country Farms. Helplessly watching his banana operation decimated by the bunchy top virus he personally understands all levels of agriculture and is a true AGvocate for Hawaii's future generation for sustainability.

Richard is also credited as a strong supporter of small farmers; akin himself to the 'rubbah-slippah folks. He sits as a Board member on numerous well respected HAWAI'I ISLAND Boards: the Hawai'i Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB); the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HIJCC); the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) as a steering committee member; Chairman of the Big Island Community Coalition and most recently a Founding Member of the Hawai'i Farmers & Ranchers United (HFRU) as well as the Hawai'i Board of Agriculture, Kohala Center.

Richard was very instrumental, both vocally and visibly in our County of Hawai'i Bills 79 and 113 regarding Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO), while himself not a grower of any GMO crop. The Hawai'i Papaya Industry Association is truly indebted to his support and contribution in their 'fight'.

We stand united in our support and sincerely ask for your vote of confidence and approval of Richard Ha to continue his ongoing works to a sustainable agriculture State of Hawai'i. He is truly one of our true "Sons of Hawai'i".

Thank you.



Ross R. Sibucan
President

1065 Ahua Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167
Email: info@gcahawaii.org
Website: www.gcahawaii.org



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GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via Capitol Website

March 27, 2014

TO: HONORABLE CLARENCE NISHIHARA, CHAIR, HONORABLE RONALD KOUCHI, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF GOVERNORS MESSAGE 598.** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, RICHARD HA, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

HEARING

DATE: Thursday, March 27, 2014
TIME: 2:50 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of approximately six hundred (600) general contractors, subcontractors and construction related firms. GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. The GCA's mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

GCA is writing in **support** of Governors Message 598 and the continued appointment of Mr. Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture. GCA's interest in supporting Mr. Ha's appointment stems from the importance of agriculture in our state as it continues to make significant contributions to our economy and the sustainability of state. The state's economy relies on the agricultural industry which generates over \$2.9 billion of the state's annual economy while providing over 42,000 jobs both directly and indirectly.

Mr. Ha's public service to our state as current Board of Agriculture member has not gone unrecognized. In 2011 the University of Hawaii Alumni Association recognized Mr. Ha as a Distinguished Alumni where many private and public leaders recognized him as a visionary leader and a pioneer in all he puts a mind to. In 2009, he was elected to the Social Science Association, an organization of community leaders. Additionally, in 2008 to the Shidler College of Business Hall of Honor. Mr. Ha has been an exemplary citizen and in his talks regularly reference the "rubbah slippah folk" – translating into those that may not have easy access to wide resources, while keeping the citizens of our state in mind when making decisions that may affect them.

Mr. Ha is a well-respected leader statewide and has been an avid advocate of energy independence. He is a regularly featured speaker at conferences and talks about agriculture and sustainability, while always keeping the focus of Hawaii in mind.

The GCA **supports** Governors Message 598 and the appointment of Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support of Mr. Ha's nomination.

Jerry Ornellas
6170 Hauiki Road, Unit G
Kapaa, Hawaii 96746
808-639-6044

LATE

March 25, 2014

Senate Agriculture Committee
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

SUBJECT: Governor's Message 598 Reappointing Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture,
State of Hawaii

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee,

Richard Ha is a hard working and successful farmer who has served Hawaii extremely well as a member of the Board of Agriculture (BOA) for the past four years. He should be confirmed to a second term on the BOA where he can continue to be a thoughtful advocate for agriculture in Hawaii. His family farm, Hamakua Springs, is at the forefront in terms of demonstrating the practical application of 21st century cultivation practices such as greenhouse and hydroponic techniques, aquaponic technology, food safety practices and alternative energy utilization. Similarly, the innovative marketing of his farm's products has opened the door for many other farmers to realize its significance to the success of an agricultural enterprise. Essentially, Hamakua Springs is a working model for successful agriculture and Richard has always demonstrated his willingness to share his experience and knowledge with anyone who wishes to engage. Having known Richard for over 30 years and having served with him on the BOA, I can say unequivocally that he is an honorable person who has a deep commitment to Hawaii which is reflected in his dedication to the agricultural industry in our state. I have also observed that he works extremely well with the other members of the BOA to develop solid solutions for, at times, complex issues that demand extensive research and collaboration. His encouragement to new farmers who appear before the BOA for leases or loans is heartfelt and inspiring to them. The agricultural industry in all its aspects will continue to grow and thrive with Richard's leadership.

Please consider my strong support for Richard Ha in your deliberations. You can be confident that he will serve all of Hawaii well as a member of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my view.

Jerry Ornellas

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DAVID FUERTES
DC ENTERPRISE KAHUA
P. O. BOX 896 KAPAAU, HI 96755
PH: (808) 889-5391
EMAIL: dcfuertes@aol.com

March 26, 2014

To: All Members of the Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii
SENS@capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: SUPPORT FOR MR. RICHARD HA – REAPPOINTMENT TO THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Senators:

I am a retired Agriculture teacher for the State Dept. of Education for over 35 years, a former Board of Agriculture Commissioner (8 yrs), and former Executive Secretary for the Hawaii Future Farmers of America Foundation. Currently, I am working with a non profit on Mentorship for Youth and Families in Hawaiian culture and Natural Farming in my community of North Kohala.

I have known Mr. Richard Ha for over 20 years on various Agricultural related endeavors here on the Big Island. I feel he is the most qualified person to represent the Big Island on the Board of Agriculture, bringing innovative agriculture knowledge and resources to the table. He has been a driving force in support of all farmers: conventional, organic, etc. Mr. Ha has always been and will continue to be a most valuable advocate for all farmers because he *understands* where the agriculture industry "has been" and where it "is going". People who have moved onto our islands do not have this unique insight and subsequently do not understand the hardships and the type of people who are dedicated farmers. They are generations of farmers intent on feeding their families and their community in face of industry shut downs, destruction of soil, loss of farming lands, and enormous cost increases for supplies, equipment and fuel.

You will not find a more qualified representative to the State Board of Agriculture and I fully support Mr. Richard Ha for reappointment to Commissioner for another term. Consider what he has accomplished, his history of service, and the strong commitment to the Agriculture industry in your decision. Please make the right decision for the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully,



David Fuertes
DC Enterprise Kahua
Kohala, Hawaii 96755

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:21 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Please support Richard Ha's Nomination to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture
Attachments: HFRA Jan 2014.pdf; HFRA Partners 020414.pdf

From: Alan Gottlieb [mailto:gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 2:48 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: Please support Richard Ha's Nomination to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture

We are Hawaii's farmers & ranchers and floral & nursery growers who collectively produce more than 80% of the agricultural products, including food, grown in Hawaii. Additionally we are supported by community groups, agricultural support groups and key individuals and individual farmers and ranchers, large and small. Our alliance includes the commodity groups, individual farmers and ranchers, Ag land owners and support groups, and community groups listed on the attached roster.

Richard Ha is one of the most respected and innovative agricultural leaders in the state. He has been farming successfully for over 35 years. He is a leading advocate for small farmers, and is widely respected by his fellow board members on the Hawaii Board of Ag, where he has served for the past 4 years. His widely shared opinions on peak oil, alternative energy solutions and profitable, sustainable farming are above reproach. We need an army of Richard Ha's. He's a smart, selfless, likeable guy who knows what he's talking about, and is an innovative, progressive and experienced farmer. **And who doesn't know Richard's famous quote "If the famer makes money, the famer will farm"**.

Richard is a current and active Board member for the following Boards; The Hawaii Board of Agriculture, Kohala Center, Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB), Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) steering committee, Chair- Big Island Community Coalition and a Founding member of Hawaii Farmers & Ranchers United (HFRU).

Please support Richard Ha's Nomination to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Farming & Ranching is not what we do ~ It's Who We Are

For Questions or Comments Please Contact

Chris Manfredi, President, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation

Chris@HFBF.org

Alex Franco, President, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

HICattlemens@hawaii.rr.com

HAWAII FARMERS AND RANCHERS ALLIANCE

Who we are

We are Hawaii's farmers & ranchers and floral & nursery growers who collectively produce more than 80% of the agricultural products, including food, grown in Hawaii. Additionally we are supported by community groups, agricultural support groups and key individuals and individual farmers and ranchers, large and small.

Goal

Ensure the viability and sustainability of Hawaii's farming community for all the benefits Agriculture brings, including increased local food availability and the achievement of Hawaii's Food Security goals.

Mission Statement

The Hawaii Farmers and Ranchers Alliance will support public policies that are inclusive of all types of agricultural production so as to ensure the viability and sustainability of all forms of agricultural enterprises consistent with Federal and State Laws and Regulations and Generally Accepted Agricultural Practices.

Vision

The Hawaii Farmers and Ranchers Alliance recognizes and affirms that a vibrant and sustainable agricultural sector is of supreme benefit to current and future generations of Hawaii Residents and supports policies that promote commercial agricultural operations as a valued economic sector in Hawaii.

- We support public policies that are inclusive of all types of agricultural production so as to ensure the viability and sustainability of all forms of agricultural enterprises consistent with Federal and State Laws and Regulations and Generally Accepted Agricultural Practices;
- We support uniform and consistent, national and statewide public policies that encourage investment in infrastructure and the continued viability of agriculture in the State so as to provide Hawaii producers the capacity to compete globally;
- We pledge a policy of indivisibility and commitment to working with all Hawaii producers, residents, elected public officials, and regulatory bodies to promote and foster a vibrant and sustainable Hawaii agriculture in an atmosphere of positive coexistence, for the benefit of current and future generations;
- We are committed to products with transparency, identity and local flavor;
- We understand there is strength in the differences between us, yet our agricultural community can only exist with positive communication and common understanding;
- We are proud to support Hawaii's rich agricultural heritage and honor the strong men, women and children who have endured many hardships to create and perpetuate our agricultural culture;
- We are proud that our Farmers and Ranchers are the Stewards of Hawaii's Environment ~ many of our family farms & ranches have received stewardship awards for their efforts.

Farming & Ranching is not what we do ~ It's Who We Are

Please visit us on-line: <http://4agohawaii.org/HawaiiFarmersRanchersAlliance.html>

Hawaii Farmers & Ranchers Alliance

Affiliates as of Jan 28, 2014

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Commodity Groups

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (1800 members)
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (130 Members)
Big Island Banana Growers Association (10 members)
Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (250 members)
Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery Association (300 Members)
Hawaii Papaya Industry Association (190 Members)
Hawaii Tropical Flowers & Foliage Association-Kauai (25 Members)
Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association (180 Members)
Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association (50 members)
Hawaii Pork Industry Association (35 members)

Farmers & Ranchers

Aloun Farms	Alluvion, Inc.
Big Island Dairy	Farias Cattle Company
Fat Law Farms	Gay & Robinson
Hamakua Springs Country Farms	Hawaii Beef Producers, LLC
Hawaii Commercial & Sugar	Ho Farms
KK Ranch	Kahua Ranch
Kahuku Farms	Kahuku Farmers, Inc.
Kamiya Gold, Inc.	Kukaiau Ranch
Larry Jeffs Farms	Matsuda-Fukuyama Farms
Maui Cattle Company	Palani Ranch
Ponoholo Ranch	Tedeschi Vineyards, Inc.
Ulupalakua Ranch	Wong's Meat Market Ltd.

Agricultural Landowners

Alexander & Baldwin	Grove Farms
Kapoho Land Partnership	W.H. Shipman

Agricultural Support Groups

4 Ag Hawaii, Inc.	Hawaii Agriculture Research Center
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Community Organizations

Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (1,000+ members)
Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (120 Members)
Hawaii Leeward Planning Conference (100 Members)
Land Use Research Foundation

Individuals

Dr. Ashley M. Stokes, DVM	Dr. Donna Ching
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LATE

Leonard K.P. Leong
Vice President

Uploaded via Capitol Website

March 27, 2014

TO: HONORABLE CLARENCE NISHIHARA, CHAIR, HONORABLE
RONALD KOUCHI, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF GOVERNORS MESSAGE 598.** Submitting for
consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture,
Gubernatorial Nominee, RICHARD HA, for a term to expire 6-30-
2018.



HEARING

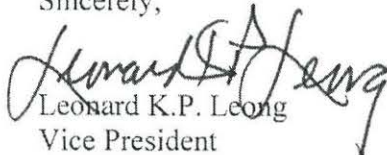
DATE: Thursday, March 27, 2014
TIME: 2:50 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee,

As a citizen that enjoys the products being sold by local farmers I would like to support Richard Ha as a member of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

His experience as a farmer will help in decision making and understanding the problems of farming.

Sincerely,


Leonard K.P. Leong
Vice President



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March 27, 2014

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture

RE: GM 598 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, Richard Ha, for a term to expire 6-30-2018

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Honolulu-based impact investment firm, which is working to improve the quality of life for Hawai'i residents by investing in projects that create more locally grown food, increase renewable energy and reduce/recycle waste. The Ulupono Initiative is in strong support of Richard Ha's re-nomination to the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Ha has deep farming experience and lends a practical voice to the Board of Agriculture. He is a leader in the State for commercial food farmers and cares about the community. The State of Hawai'i will be well served by his continued participation on the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to support Mr. Ha's nomination.

Sincerely,

Kyle Datta
General Partner



William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Laverne R. Omori
Director

Donn S. Mende
Deputy Director

County of Hawai`i

DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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(808) 961-8366 • Fax (808) 935-1205
E-mail: chresdev@co.hawaii.hi.us

March 25, 2014

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Chairman Clarence Nishihara
Committee on Agriculture
Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu Hawaii

RE: GM 598, Support of Richard Ha's Appointment to the Board of Agriculture

Aloha Chairman Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

This communication is in support of the reappointment of Richard Ha to the State Board of Agriculture. Richard has 35 years of farming experience and operates a 600 acre banana and hydroponic tomato farm in South Hilo. His Hamakua Springs Farm is a model for sustainable and responsible farming that recently installed a 100 kW hydroelectric generator to decrease his reliance on oil-based power. He has been a hard working agricultural visionary who is a frequent speaker at conferences addressing agriculture and sustainability. He sets the bar high for what it takes to operate a sustainable agricultural business in Hawai`i. He is a man who walks his talk!

Richard has also been an unrelenting advocate for responsible and affordable alternative energy development and for reducing the cost of energy to Hawai`i's consumers, particularly those "rubber slipper folks" who are most vulnerable to our island's high cost of living.

Richard's experience on the Board is an essential and valuable asset for the Department of Agriculture. His contribution will continue to be fair, level headed and imbued with real understanding of the many facets of the agriculture industry and will include the voices of the many farmers, ranchers and growers he relates to on a daily basis.

We encourage you to confirm Richard Ha's appointment to the Board of Agriculture. Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Laverne R. Omori in cursive.

LAVERNE R. OMORI
Director

Hawai'i Construction Alliance

LATE

P.O. Box 179441
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 348-8885

March 27, 2014

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
and members

Senate Committee on Agriculture
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Support GM598, confirming Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance supports GM598, which submits for consideration and confirmation gubernatorial nominee Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture for a term to expire 6/30/2018.

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Hawai'i Masons Union, Local 1 and Local 630; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local 3. Together, the four member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the four basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

The Board of Agriculture is charged with establishing broad operating policies for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. The Department, in turn, works to ensure the preservation and productive use of agricultural resources so as to assure a healthy and adequate food supply for Hawaii's people, provide employment, maintain a favorable balance of trade, and preserve the aesthetic quality of the islands.

It is important, therefore, that the Board of Agriculture be composed of members who possess a strong background in the business, science, and practice of agriculture, and who take a practical and fair-minded approach to crafting agricultural policy in the State of Hawai'i. The Hawai'i Construction Alliance believes that Richard Ha has the needed qualifications to be an effective and level-headed member of the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Ha is President of Hamakua Springs Country Farms, a 600-acre, family-owned banana and hydroponic tomato farm on Hawai'i Island. He has incorporated a number of innovative approaches to making his farm's operations more economically and environmentally sustainable, including installing a hydroelectric generator, seeking Eco-OK certification, and using unmanned aerial vehicles to monitor his crops. Additionally, he has proven himself as an active community member through his service as a Captain in the U.S. Army and on the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations.

Accordingly, we humbly request your support for the nomination of Mr. Ha to the Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo,



Tyler Dos Santos-Tam
Executive Director
Hawai'i Construction Alliance
execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org

L&R Farm Ent LLC
P.O. Box 125
Hoolehua Hi 96729

LATE

TESTIMONY
IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
RICHARD HA

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014 2:50 P.M. ROOM 229

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I strongly support Mr. Ha's nomination and reconfirmation to the Board of Agriculture.

Richard is a third generation farmer and has extensive local agricultural background. He is the owner and president of Hamakua Springs Country Farms, a 35 year old diversified agriculture operation, employing 70 workers. Richard has a wealth of knowledge about the agriculture industry in Hawaii and the challenges and opportunities we face as farmers. He is the founding member and president of the Big Island Community Coalition, member of the Hawaii Clean Energy Steering Committee, board member of the Kohala Center and co-chair of the geothermal working group. As a current member of the Board of Agriculture, Richard is a vital contributor to Board deliberations, bringing a farmer's perspective to all discussions.

Based on Richard's extensive background in agriculture and his experience, community involvement, and solid track record as a current Board member, I strongly support Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo,



L&R Farm Ent LLC, Lynn DeCoite, President

Aloha Senator-

I would like to offer my support for Mr. Richard Ha to be appointed as a member of Agriculture Committee. I have known Mr. Ha from a number of years now. We occasionally meet at community meetings as well as public forums. I found him being a good listener and supportive of a project I am interested in.

You see, I am a founding member as well as an officer for the Piihonua Hawaiian Homestead Community Association in Hilo, Hawaii. We have been blessed with having a year round stream in the back of our DHHL homestead. I found out that he was also interested and working on installing a hydroelectric at his farm, so I would always ask him on the process and issues he needed to address obstacles to overcome.

I had previously gone to the Department of Land and Natural Resources here in Hilo to find out how we can generate electricity from our stream. They basically tried to talk me out of it because they informed me that I needed to go to various other state and county regulatory agencies and they were not sure which ones and what department I had to go to. Needless to say, I was disillusioned to learn that our Association has access to a natural resource we can easily harvest, but not able to tap into this energy source.

In any event, upon talking with Mr. Ha, he informed me that he took years to go through the "red tape" but finally

was able to get the proper permits from the various regulating state and county departments. However, he has it up and running at his farm. He offered his help and when I am ready, he would advise me of the process. He invited me to visit his farm and view his hydroelectric system which he has installed and currently in use on his farm.

When I fly along the Hamakua Coast on Hawaiian Airlines, I see many rivers and streams that run from Mauka to Makai, I can just imagine the farms and homes which can benefit from a simple hydroelectric system to power their homes and farm enterprises. His knowledge, experience and skill level would go greatly forward to help his neighbors and friends lucky enough to have flowing water next to their lots.

The Hamakua Coast was the bedrock for agricultural lands that was used to grow sugar in its heydays. I feel that with Hawaii's effort to become self-sufficient in food, the Big Island could and should be the breadbasket of Oahu and Maui who are converting prime agriculture lands into housing. Here on the Island of Hawaii, we are blessed to have good soil and ample rain to grow anything we wish to harvest. Richard would be a tremendous asset to have on the Ag Committee since he has the vision and attitude to overcome obstacles and challenges.

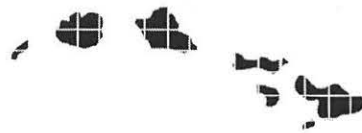
I found out from a technical at CHTAR that the Island of Hawaii has 11 of the 13 types of growing climates. Therefore, we should be able to sustain our population

LATE

with locally grown produce such as vegetables, fruits, and livestock. This has Mr. Ha's career choice. Hawaii would be better served by a person of his knowledge, skills, and experiences in agriculture and related fields. In this manner, Hawaii is able to import less and less of what we consume and create jobs and careers for future farmers and ranchers. I should know, I was a Sales Manager for a Big Island Supermarket Chain for over 20 years. We bought our goods via Matson and Air Cargo. Many of the products "locally grown" would benefit our State of Hawaii residents if grown here. And this is what I feel Mr. Ha brings to the table as a member of the Agriculture Department and I wholehearted support his continued presence on the Agricultural Board.

Sincerely,

Ronald T. Kodani
Vice President, Piihonua Hawaiian Homestead
Community Association



LATE

LAND USE RESEARCH
FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

1100 Alakea Street, Suite 408
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 521-4717
www.lurf.org



March 27, 2014

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture

Support of GM 598 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, RICHARD HA, for a term to expire on June 30, 2018.

Thursday, March 27, 2014, 2:50 p.m., in Conference Room 229

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. One of LURF's missions is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF **supports GM 598**, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, RICHARD HA, for a term to expire on June 30, 2018; and offers the following comments.

Richard Ha has already successfully served a term representing Hawaii and its farming, ranching and other agricultural interests on the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Ha provides the BOA with very valuable knowledge and experience and can serve as a resource, based on his accounting degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, his thirty-five years of farming experience in four distinct growing regions on Hawaii Island and his understanding of farming and its impacts from field to fork. Serving as president of Hamakua Springs Country Farms ("Hamakua Springs"), Mr. Ha understands beginning farming and the importance of protecting Hawaii's Food security. Hamakua Springs is a six hundred acre fee simple banana and hydroponic tomato farm, operated by Mr. Ha, his five family members and seventy workers. He watched as bunchy top virus decimated his banana operation, despite using all available tools. Mr. Ha understands all levels of agriculture and how important it is for Hawaii's future generation to be sustainable.

LATE

Mr. Ha's agricultural-related priorities are consistent with the Department of Agriculture and the majority of the farmers, ranchers and other agricultural operations and organizations, including: the goal of providing healthy, affordable food for Hawaii's residents and visitors, food security and sustainability, the inextricably intertwined relationship between agriculture and energy, the vital importance of keeping production costs low for farmers and their customers, the need to support small farmers, and the use of science, scientific methods and self-adjusting to create and maintain viable agricultural operations, which gives a solid foundation for future planning.

He is also a respected and active community volunteer, serving as a Board member on the following Boards: Kohala Center, Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB), Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) steering committee, Chair- Big Island Community Coalition and a Founding member of Hawaii Farmers & Ranchers United (HFRU).

Most valuable of all, is Mr. Ha's character – he treats all parties with respect, he is up-front and he endeavors to resolve issues in the spirit of Aloha, instead of through questionable tactics and confrontation. He represents the many agricultural stakeholders and the general public (he sometimes refers to a “rubbah slippah” folks) instead of the elite.

Based on the above, we respectfully request your favorable consideration of GM 598.

Thank you for the opportunity to present comments in support of Mr. Ha's nomination.

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 2:25 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: m.and.cj@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I would like to express strong support for Richard Ha serving on the Board of Agriculture. I have had the opportunity to talk with Richard more than once about agriculture issues on the Big Island and I believe his personal farming experience and concerns for food security and sustainability are needed on the Board of Agriculture. He has a good understanding of the needs of small and mid-size farmers to be able to economically viable. He also has a good appreciation of the role energy costs play in affecting farming success, and how our dependence on imported oil adversely impacts farming. Mahalo for your consideration of my thoughts. Mark Johnson Hilo

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:53 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: ciAlohaAdvocate@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM
Attachments: Support Testimony RIchard Ha GM 598.pages.zip

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Iboshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please let me know if you cannot open my support testimony document, Aloha Charlene Iboshi

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

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Testimony in favor of GM598, Richard Ha reappointment to the State Department of Agriculture Board

My name is Dexter Keawe`ehu Vredenburg, President of Hui Kako`o, a non-profit organization formed to help grassroots groups with technical support. I live in Waimea in Hawai`i County, I am a small farmer. My wife Penny and I have known Richard Ha since long before his banana plantation days – at Hilo High.

The single measure of Richard Ha that distinguishes him from anti-GMO opponents is that Richard Ha runs a number of farms where the basic tenet is NOT pro-GMO or anti-GMO – if it helps Hawai`i's farmers and their agricultural programs, if it's provably healthy and safe, that's what we need to support.

Richard Ha has worked his way through a number of crises, notably the bunchy top banana virus. Despite that huge agricultural loss, he nevertheless came back and earned honor as the first banana farm, in the world to be certified as Eco OK. He was spared but was deeply hurt as anti-GMO supporters cut down acres of papaya trees whose national reach depended on a Federally approved GMO method for Rainbow papayas. Farmers understand farmers and having your crop of year or older trees cut down really ruins a farmer.

We need Richard Ha to represent the objective viewpoint of a farmer who must have successful agricultural methods to survive. And remember, if the farmer fails, we have no food.

Keawe Vredenburg

keaweehu@hawaii.rr.com

P.O. Box 6661, Kamuela HI 96743

808-885-1904



RALPH S. INOUYE CO LTD
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

2831 Awaawaloa Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

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F: 808.833.5971

License No. ABC-457
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LATE

March 26, 2014

Via Email: AGLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Via Fax: 808-586-6879

To: The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair, Honorable Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture

Subject: **Strong Support** of Governors Message 598: Nomination of **Richard Ha** to the Board of Agriculture

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture,

My name is Lance M. Inouye and I am President of Ralph S. Inouye Co., Ltd. (RSI), a State of Hawaii General Contractor. I am writing in **strong support** of **Richard Ha**, President of Hamakua Springs Country Farms, a 600 acre farm on the slopes of Mauna Kea in Pepe'ekeo on the Big Island of Hawaii, who has been nominated to the Board of Agriculture.

I have known Richard for nearly 4 years now though I heard of him much earlier. I still remember the first time I met him talking about his farm and the ideas he had to incorporate alternate energy in his farming operations. From that first encounter, I have always thought of him as a forward thinking visionary with a pot full of ideas, so to speak. He was always thinking of how he could make farming affordable and profitable using technology, alternate energy and his business acumen. He incorporated hydroelectric generation for his farm. He found ways to support his 70+ farmers as family, allowing them to use the land to put food on their own family's table while working to make the farming business profitable for all. He is vigilant for new and safe technologies that improve production while growing healthy sustainable agricultural foods for locals. He is known to be a champion of the "rubba slippah" folks but don't let that fool you. He is a well-educated thinker, with a UH accounting degree, which he brings to the table along with his passion for science in agriculture and alternate energy, including geothermal. Throughout all the years I have known him, I have found him to be an upstanding and outstanding member of the farming and alternate energy communities as well as a responsible citizen of the State of Hawaii. He has unselfishly given of his valuable time to those industries and communities by serving on the Board of Agriculture, Kohala Center, Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative steering committee, Big Island Community Coalition and founding member of the Hawaii Farmers & Ranchers United. Because of his intelligence and thoughtful insights on issues without ever losing sight of the welfare of our community as a whole, it is no wonder that he is sought after by so many boards and associations.

The Board of Agriculture plays an important role in the farming industry and food sustainability in our State of Hawaii. Richard is not only well-qualified to serve on the Board but also, would be a valuable resource person for its members. In my humble opinion, our community will be the beneficiary of his service on the Board of Agriculture.

Ralph S. Inouye Co., Ltd. and I personally **wholeheartedly support** the appointment of **Richard Ha** to the Board of Agriculture.

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HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST
1617 Palama Street · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300 · URL: hilecet.org

**TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LECET
CLYDE T. HAYASHI - DIRECTOR**

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014, 2:50 P.M.
STATE CAPITOL – ROOM 229

**RE: GM 598, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, RICHARD HA**

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair Kouchi and members of the Committee:

My name is Clyde T. Hayashi and I am the Director of Hawaii LECET. Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers Union Local 368, its 5,000+ members, and 250+ unionized contractors.

We support GM 598, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee Richard Ha. We believe Mr. Ha is more than qualified to be part of the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture. During his first term on the Board of Agriculture, Mr. Ha has proven to be a staunch advocate for agriculture and food security and a great friend of local farmers.

Mr. Ha and his family run a 600 acre farm in Pepeekeo on the Big Island, which I have visited several times. Their Hamakua Springs Country Farms grow bananas which feed many local families. In keeping with his strong beliefs on sustainability, Mr. Ha added a hydroelectric plant on his property which will help him avoid the high electric prices on the Big Island and allow his farm to become much more sustainable.

Mr. Ha has been a leader in the fight to have science lead our agricultural policies. He has been recommending the formulation of a task force or working group to facilitate objective discussion on the issue of GMOs. Mr. Ha believes having a taskforce where people from all sides of this issue can present their view with supporting evidence in an atmosphere conducive for open discussion will be beneficial for the industry and for the community. Anti-GMO groups and individuals have chosen to push for passage of laws without having this discussion. Mr. Ha has been unafraid to stand-up to those who have instead chosen to use scare tactics, aggressiveness and personal attacks to promote their message. It is unfortunate that there are people with differing viewpoints who are opposing his nomination.

I consider the local papaya industry to be the best example of how the discussion on GMOs has become much too subjective and emotional. The ringspot virus nearly destroyed the entire papaya industry. In response, local scientists developed the Rainbow papaya, a GMO papaya, which saved the industry. Most local people know that papayas are a GMO product, yet many continue to buy and consume them. We all probably know people who eat papayas every day or nearly every day. There are those who say that GMO products hurt or kill people and want to ban GMO papayas entirely. If what they are saying is true, then why does Hawaii, with so many of our local residents consuming GMO papaya, have the highest life expectancy of any State?

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HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST
1617 Paluana Street · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300 · URL: hilecet.org

We need a shift in our discussion and focus to "How do we feed our people?" Mr. Ha has been a leader in raising this topic to the forefront of public discussion. How does our state become food secure and how do we achieve food sustainability? With our huge dependence on imported food, how do we grow more of the food we consume? Mr. Ha will be a leader in this critical discussion and help to develop policies which will move us closer to our goals.

In addition to his support of the local agriculture industry, Mr. Ha is also a staunch advocate of geothermal energy. He believes geothermal energy is the best way to stabilize electric costs, a huge factor and expense in agriculture. Affordable electricity is needed for our local farmers to have a better chance to survive and prosper.

Mr. Ha is a life-long farmer who understands the challenges that local farmers face. He is a staunch advocate for agriculture and food security. He is a leader in the development of geothermal energy which will provide stable, affordable electricity and he is a community leader who is a strong advocate for the Thirty Meter Telescope and for the Big Island Science and Technology industry. Mr. Ha is exactly the kind of leader we need on the Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express our **strong support** for Mr. Richard Ha.

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:29 PM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Re-Appointment of Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

From: Hale Moana Bed and Breakfast [mailto:info@bnb-aloha.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:17 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: Re-Appointment of Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture

Aloha Senators,

I am writing this letter in support of the reappointment of Richard Ha to the State Board of Agriculture.

My name is Petra Wiesenbauer and I have been a Big Island resident for over 15 years. I live in Leilani Estates by Pahoa and am the owner of Hale Moana Bed & Breakfast. I have known about Richard Ha for many years, but met him personally in May of 2012, when the Hawaii Island County Council tried to pass a bill to establish a one-mile buffer zone around the Puna Geothermal Venture, in which properties could have been bought out by the County and then were to be kept uninhabited. It would have been a disaster for the residents of this area. At the time we had formed a residents group opposing the bill and in support of constructive collaboration with PGV. We had asked Richard Ha to join our group and support us in our venture. With the help of Richard Ha we were able to make our voices heard and in the end the bill did not get signed into law. Instead a process began together with a consultant (Peter Adler) to support safety and health in this area and make future decisions based on facts and not fears or assumptions.

It was at that time that a continued relationship developed with Richard Ha and I have since been able to witness many of his concepts, approaches and innovative projects.

Richard Ha is a remarkable person and some of the most outstanding characteristics about him include the following:

- He has decades of successful farming experience in a wide range of soil conditions and environments.
- He is a visionary and oftentimes far ahead of the mainstream operations: he continuously seeks innovative ways to reach sustainability, efficiency and integration into the local culture and economy. Examples are (1) his focus on sustainable energies and the implementation of a hydro-power system on his Hamakua farm, (2) the use of unmanned aerial vehicles to study the lay-out of his land, determine the best use and monitor the farm's crops, (3) implementation of new methods of farming responsibly in terms of the use of chemicals;
- He is a community integrator and not polarizer. His interest is to bring people together to facilitate dialog and communication between different groups and opinions. He is solution oriented.
- He has a social conscience and always looks out for the little people here on this island, the rubbah slippa folks. As soon as you talk to him you will notice this and it is documented over and over again in so many of his actions: the way he believes in the strength of a united community, the way he takes care of his family and employees at the farm and the respect he has here in this business community, on a State level and beyond the State of Hawaii.

- He is a solid, down-to-earth person who will always take responsibility with a bigger picture and long term vision in mind. It is never about personal agenda for him. It is always about "what is good for this community".

Re-appointing him to the Board of Agriculture will be a benefit to the Ag community and the State of Hawaii. His visions can help the farming community to adopt strategic and all-encompassing solutions. With his strong focus on food and energy sustainability for this great State of Hawaii and his connectedness with many other strategic thinkers and innovators all across the country, it would be a great loss for us, if his nomination was not approved.

I sincerely ask you to support the re-appointment of Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture.

With warm Alohas,

Petra Wiesenbauer
Hale Moana Bed & Breakfast
13-3315 Makamae Street
Pahoa, HI 96778
info@bnb-aloha.com
www.bnb-aloha.com
ph: (808) 965-7015

LATE

Follow us on our   or 

Enjoy the Aloha Spirit, our comfortable suites, gourmet breakfast and tropical ambience.

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:29 PM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Tom Beck [mailto:hooluanaranch@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:22 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board. Mahalo!

Tom Beck

Tom Beck
P. O. Box 711510
Mt. View, HI 96771

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:29 PM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Appointment of Richard Ha to the State Ag Board

LATE

From: vsang1@yahoo.com [mailto:vsang1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:21 PM
To: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Subject: Appointment of Richard Ha to the State Ag Board

Dear Senator,

My name is Valapa Sangviriyakul and I live as a full time residence at 15-1959 8th Ave, Keaau, HI 96749.

I am fully supported Mr. Richard Ha to be our State AG Board. I don't know Mr. Ha personally nor he knows me. But I have been researched Mr. Ha background in agriculture and I am very certain that Mr Ha is very qualified for this position. I've also noticed how Mr. Ha responses to his criticism very professionally, unlike his opponent.

Please add my voice to your decision. Mahalo

Valapa Sangviriyakul

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Kihei Ahuna <kiheiahuna@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 12:37 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: Support for Richard Ha

LATE

Senator Nishihara,

My name is Kihei Ahuna/President of Keaukaha Panaewa Farmers Association and i'm writing this testimony of support for Mr. Richard Ha to be a board member in your committee.

We support his nomination and his achievements speaks for itself. We believe he is competent and totally qualified to be on this board. I ask that you seriously consider his nomination for the betterment of the future of agriculture in Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Kihei A. Ahuna
President
Keaukaha Panaewa Farmers Association

Sent from Windows Mail

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 12:23 PM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Dee Montgomery-Brock [mailto:diana.montgomery-brock@monsanto.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 12:16 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Dee Montgomery-Brock
95-430 Kamahana Place
Mililani, HI 96789

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 12:06 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: cochonlibre@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM*

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie Lang [mailto:leslie@leslielang.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:00 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

I strongly support Richard Ha's confirmation to the Board of Agriculture. I've worked with him for years and find him to be very consistent and spot-on in advocating for the people on the Big Island.

He spends a lot of time and energy in consulting experts to bring himself up to speed on issues. His only agenda is to make this island a better place for farmers and consumers on the Big Island, and to leave it a better place (in terms of energy, food sustainability and food security, education, economics) for their children and grandchildren.

He is a remarkable person who truly advocates at all time for the "rubbah slippah" folks, and not solely for personal gain. He is the definition of pono in his actions and I cannot think of a person better suited to sit on and make decisions with the Agricultural Board.

I hope you will do the right thing and confirm Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture.

Leslie Lang
Writer/Editor

Leslie Lang
P.O. Box 217
Pepeekeo, HI 96783

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:41 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Lani Weigert [mailto:lan@hiagtourism.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:23 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

I know Richard Ha personally and he has been a champion for ag for several decades. He is informed and open to innovation which keeps ag moving forward. I support Richard Ha for reelection to the Ag Board. He is focused on feeding our communities with locally grown food and that's what we need to happen.

I strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Lani Weigert
Executive Director
Hawaii AgriTourism Association

Lani Weigert
2065 Uhaloa Road
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:40 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Shinsuke Matayoshi [mailto:psmatayo@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:30 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Shinsuke Matayoshi
197 Hookano St.
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:23 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Kaniela Koge [mailto:burnt_11@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:01 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Kaniela Koge
315 KaManelo Pl
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:18 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: vochoa2@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Venessa Ochoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support Richard's nomination. He has proven that he is a great leader in agriculture and serves our community. He will continue to advocate for all of Hawaii's agriculture.

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From: lardg <lardg@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:41 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: Oppose Mr Ha for committee appointment.

LATE

hello my name is Lawrence ramirez I am a resident of Hawaii Island plead with you to oppose the appointment of Richard haha to the egg committee. It is a conflict of interest, Mr Ha is producing food company. His views are strictly Pro Gm and has a vested interest in decisions the committee would make this would not be fair to the general public and is not morally right.

The people of Hawaii are speaking out for justice on this issue and clean safe foods for our families. We will watching our politician's and voting as nessecary to ensure this. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Aloha a me Malama Pono!

Lawrence Ramirez
Po Box 4610
Kailua Kona, Hi 96745

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

nishihara1 - Amanda

LATE

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:40 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Nani Rothfus [mailto:nanirothfus@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:34 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Nani Rothfus
P.o. Box 524
Papaikou, HI 96781

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:28 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: surferjay@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM*

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:23 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: hunbet@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Obermann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Richard Ha is an excellent choice for the Board of Agriculture. He is committed to the best farming practices and is a leader among farmers.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:36 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: tgreenwell@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: I am in full support of Richard Ha being reappointed by Governor Abercrombie to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:21 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Candidacy of Mr. Richard Ha for the Hawaii Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Russell Yost [mailto:rsyost@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:00 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: Candidacy of Mr. Richard Ha for the Hawaii Board of Agriculture

Dear Senators,

I was recently informed of the possibility that Mr. Richard Ha could be a member of the Board of Agriculture. I would like to indicate my thorough support for Mr. Ha as a concerned, informed citizen with extremely useful experience, knowledge, and community awareness of the critical role of agriculture in Hawaii's present and future. I strongly support his candidacy and selection for this important task,

With Aloha

--

Russell Yost
1178E Wainiha St.
Honolulu, HI, 96825

Phone: 808-956-7066
Fax: 808-956-3894
Email: rsyost@hawaii.edu
Website: <http://www2.hawaii.edu/~rsyost/>

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:21 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Wendi Kamiya [mailto:Wendi.kamiya@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:15 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Having grown up in a farming family, we know the importance and hard work of farming. Please support Richard Ha.

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Wendi Kamiya
2051 Alaeloa St
Honolulu, HI 96821

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Please Support GM 598, Richard Ha, Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Nakamura, CGR [mailto:ktn@biahawaii.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:28 PM
To: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Subject: Please Support GM 598, Richard Ha, Board of Agriculture

Dear Senator Nishihara,

As your constituent, I am asking for your support of G.M. 598, regarding the confirmation of Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Ha brings 35 years of experience in active farming, as owner of Hamakua Springs Country Farms, a 600-acre Big Island farm producing hydroponic vegetables and bananas. His farm is operated by 70 employees alongside 5 family members. He has farmed in four distinct growing regions on Hawaii Island and understands farming and its impacts from field to fork.

Mr. Ha is a strong supporter of small farmers, and understands the importance of food security and providing healthy and affordable food for the people of Hawaii.

Mr. Ha is positive member of our community and a true advocate for agriculture. He understands all levels of agriculture and how important it is for Hawaii's future generation to be sustainable.

I appreciate your support of his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Karen Nakamura CGR
CEO
Building Industry Association
94-487 Akoki St
Waipahu, HI 96797

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Iris Iwami [mailto:irisiwami@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:43 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

I have known and admired Richard Ha for years. He is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo, Iris

Iris Iwami
3138 Waialae Ave. #318
Honolulu, HI 96816

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Roberta Chu [mailto:roberta.f.chu@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:47 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Roberta Chu
478 Kipuni St.
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Gloria Wong [mailto:Glow808@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:53 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Gloria Wong
556 Nohea St
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Opposition to the Nomination of Richard Ha for the State Board of Agriculture

LATE

From: Nelson Ho [mailto:nho.hoku@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:54 PM
To: All Senators
Cc: Sen. Clarence Nishihara; Sen. Sam Slom; Sen. Ronald D. Kouchi; Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz; Sen. J. Kalani English; Sen. Laura Thielen; Sen. Glenn Wakai; Sen. Russell Ruderman
Subject: Opposition to the Nomination of Richard Ha for the State Board of Agriculture

Aloha,

My name is Nelson Ho.

Mr. Ha is a successful farmer and a nice guy. I have worked with him as a minority member on the Legislative Geothermal Working Group created by Senator Russell Kokubun's Senate Concur. Reso 99-2010. I was appointed by the Senate to be a member from the conservation community and contributor.

It was a frustrating and fruitless experience. His decisions and positions, while seemingly fair and open, ultimately devalued the committee's work product for the Legislature and decision makers.

Having sincerely held beliefs can be very beneficial but I did not have any sense of accomplishment, working with Mr. Ha. He often spoke about wanting to do right by the "rubber slipper folk", but I found his values to be for large scale industrialization, minimizing the importance of Hawaiian cultural values and favoring large corporate values over the working class people eking out a living in Hawaii.

I am opposed to his nomination to the State Ag Board. The Board needs a better balance with small scale organic farmers. Richard is a big supporter of GMO and industrialized agricultural crops. He is a proponent of large scale industrial sized geothermal development. He is a proponent of more industrial sized telescopes on Mauna Kea. If the Senate truly wants an independent Board, tackling hard and divisive issues with sensitivity I think we do not need this kind of viewpoint and standpoint on the State Ag Board.

Thank you for taking my input into consideration.

Nelson Ho, Chair
Moku Loa Group, Sierra Club
Conservation advocate for 30 years on the Big Island.

--

Nelson Ho
198 Hoku St.
Ph. 933-2650 c: 315-4850
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Appointment of Richard Ha to Hawaii Board of Agriculture

LATE

From: Tarring [mailto:tarring@lava.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:09 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: Fwd: Appointment of Richard Ha to Hawaii Board of Agriculture

Aloha,

Please support the nomination of Richard Ha to the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture.
Mahalo
Michael Tarring
President Ohana Banana Farm Inc.

Aloha pumehana

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tarring <tarring@lava.net>
Date: March 26, 2014, 4:02:49 PM HST
To: "AGLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov" <AGLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: **Appointment of Richard Ha to Hawaii Board of Agriculture**

Aloha Senator Nishihara Agriculture Committee Chairman,

My name is Michael Tarring. I am President of Ohana Banana Farm Inc. I have been farming for thirty years and currently farm apple bananas on 120 acres of land in Keaau. We produce 2,500,000lbs. of high quality apple bananas sold through out the state of Hawaii. We also employ 27 workers on our farm full time.

I have known Richard Ha for thirty years and I consider him to be a very good farmer as well as a very important member of our Hawaii Ag. community. I would like to see Richard Ha reappointed to our state Ag. Board. We farmers need expert farmers like him representing us in Hawaii.

Please support his nomination.

Mahalo
Michael Tarring
Ohana Banana Farm Inc.

Aloha pumehana

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Kayleen Sato [mailto:pukahead47@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:22 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Kayleen Sato
PO Box 7306
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

LATE

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Lena Higa [mailto:waiakea79@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:43 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Lena Higa
350 Walelia Street
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Hillis [mailto:Ehillis2003@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:54 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Eric Hillis
4725 Akekeke st.
Kekaha, HI 96752

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:20 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Appointment of Richard Ha to Hawaii Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Young Tarring [mailto:young@applebananas.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:54 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: Appointment of Richard Ha to Hawaii Board of Agriculture

Aloha,

My name is Young Tarring, VP of Ohana Banana Farm, Inc. We fully support the nomination of Richard Ha to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture and ask the you do as well! Please support his nomination!

Mahalo,

Young Tarring
Ohana Banana Farm, Inc
808-936-6617
young@applebananas.com

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Philip Lansman [mailto:phil.lansman@monsanto.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 5:15 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,
Phil Lansman

Philip Lansman
92-6030 Makeke St
Kapolei, HI 96707

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Shannon Kitamura [mailto:Shannonmiyasato@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:17 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Shannon Kitamura
1448 ala kula
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Sherri Ida [mailto:Sherrida@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:19 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Sherri Ida
80 Akea Street
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Tsue [mailto:j-pops-tsue@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:18 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Jeff Tsue
347 Walelia Place
HILO, HI 96720

LATE

From: Jan Kama <kama@hawaiiintel.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:16 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: Fwd: Testimony in Favor of Richard Ha - Confirmation Hearing for the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board

- >
- > Thank you for allowing us to submit testimony in favor of Richard Ha continuing a second term on the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board.
- >
- > As a small farmer on the Big Island, I am well aware of the need for supportive representation at the state level. Richard Ha is a staunch supporter for farmers on the Big Island, and in the State of Hawaii in general. His vast experience in business and farming makes him an ideal candidate to represent farmers. He is well respected by his peers and by the community in which he lives and farms.
- >
- > We ask that you give favorable consideration to Richard Ha and confirm his appointment to the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board.
- >
- > A. M. Kama and Jan Kama
- > Kama'aina Farms
- > 13-3510 Oneloa Street
- > Pahoa, HI 96778

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Della Allison Yamashiro [mailto:dellahilo@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:58 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Della Allison Yamashiro
Paukaa
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

LATE

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Alika Corpuz [mailto:corpuza5@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:11 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Alika Corpuz
505A HOALA Dr.
Kihei, HI 96753

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:19 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Hayde Sim [mailto:hpbsim@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:23 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Hayde Sim
8 Koki Place
Kihei, HI 96753

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Jean Kawachika [mailto:Jeankawachika@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:37 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Jean Kawachika
Laula Rd
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Matsuura [mailto:smatsuura48@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:44 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Sandra Matsuura
1061 Kuahiwi Place
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Theo Kushi [mailto:kushi@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:59 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Theo Kushi
528 Puloku Street
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Charles Kinoshita [mailto:chaskino@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:26 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is one of Hawaii's leaders in agriculture. His confirmation to the Board of agriculture has been unduly opposed by the vocal anti-GM group. To my knowledge, Mr. Ha doesn't grow GMO crops on his farm in Hamakua; however, he advocates having different tools to succeed in agriculture, including genetic engineering.

I strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Charles Kinoshita

Charles Kinoshita
1207 Ala Aupaka Place
Honolulu, HI 96818

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: John Forster [mailto:Jomi@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:38 PM

To: All Senators

Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

John Forster
727 kalanikoa st.
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Ray Nakamura [mailto:rtnakamura@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:41 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Ray Nakamura
M. Nakamura Nursery, LLC

Ray Nakamura
1382 Pu'u Ale Place
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Please oppose Mr. Ha's appointment to Ag board

LATE

From: Heidi Burgoyne [mailto:hbhawaii@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:51 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: Please oppose Mr. Ha's appointment to Ag board

Dear Senator,

First of all, thank you for your service to our state. I am deeply concerned about the sustainability of our farm lands, including the ever-entrenching lands that are given to big companies growing GMO foods. Mr. Ha is up for appointment to the Ag board and is a supporter of GMO farms.

I ask that you please oppose this appointment; Healthy food for the people should come before any money that the GMO companies may bring!

Thank you,

Heidi Burgoyne

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:18 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: masao nakamura [mailto:nakamura1382@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:01 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

masao nakamura
1382 Puu Ale Pl.
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:17 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Curt Oishi [mailto:curtsoishi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:13 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,
Curt Oishi

Curt Oishi
276 Lewa Nuu Street
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:17 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Testimony in Favor of Richard Ha - Confirmation Hearing for the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board

LATE

From: Jan Kama [mailto:kama@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:45 PM
To: All Senators; AGL@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: Testimony in Favor of Richard Ha - Confirmation Hearing for the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board

Thank you for allowing us to submit testimony in favor of Richard Ha continuing a second term on the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board.

As a small farmer on the Big Island, I am well aware of the need for supportive representation at the state level. Richard Ha is a staunch supporter for farmers on the Big Island, and in the State of Hawaii in general. His vast experience in business and farming makes him an ideal candidate to represent farmers. He is well respected by his peers and by the community in which he lives and farms.

We ask that you give favorable consideration to Richard Ha and confirm his appointment to the Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture Board.

A. M. Kama and Jan Kama
Kama'aina Farms
13-3510 Oneloa Street
Pahoa, HI 96778

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:17 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Michele Forster [mailto:mforster@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:59 PM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Michele Forster
727 Kalanikoa Street
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:17 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: Richard Ha's nomination to State Board of Agrculture; Opposition thereof

LATE

From: nrobert506@aol.com [mailto:nrobert506@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 12:14 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: Richard Ha's nomination to State Board of Agrculture; Opposition thereof

Aloha kakou.

My name is Nadine Kehaulani Robertson, and I oppose Richard Ha's nomination to the State Board of Agriculture.

Richard preaches his ideals from grass root, but his values to be large scale industrialization: GMO, Geothermal, supporter of TMT, and further building growth on Mauna Kea. Scary!

The people of Hawai'i and its Senate needs an independent Board.

Mahalo.

Nadine Kehaulani Robertson
POB 941
Mountain View, Hawai'i. 96771

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:17 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Vivas [mailto:m1vivas@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 2:11 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He is a hard worker using due diligence when evaluating circumstances and creating solutions for bolstering agriculture in Hawaii. Richard has a can do attitude.

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture in Hawaii serving on its Board.

I strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Mike Vivas

Mike Vivas
9253 Cherry Ave
Orangevale, CA 95662

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:14 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

-----Original Message-----

From: Chet Ferreira [mailto:chet.b.ferreira@monsanto.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:19 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

I would strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Chet Brian Ferreira

Chet Ferreira
189 Holua Dr.
Kahului, HI 96732

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:14 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Harry Hashimoto [mailto:243hhh@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:22 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Harry Hashimoto
1541 Pulehuiki Road
Kula, HI 96790

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:14 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Barlow [mailto:MAUIFOLK@HAWAIIANTEL.NET]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:24 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Michael Barlow
90 ELEU PL
KIHEI, HI 96753

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Sen. Clarence Nishihara
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:14 AM
To: nishihara1 - Amanda
Subject: FW: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

-----Original Message-----

From: Carl Hamada [mailto:tlbcarval@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:56 AM
To: All Senators
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Carl Hamada
1479 Haku street
Honolulu, HI 96819

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Chet Ferreira <chet.b.ferreira@monsanto.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:19 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LAI

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

I would strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Chet Brian Ferreira

Chet Ferreira
189 Holua Dr.
Kahului, HI 96732

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:18 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: aeryn.ralha@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM*

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aeryn Ralha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:01 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: denalibreezze78@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vincent Leaf	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Opposing the appointment of "Richard HA", who has no breath of life, and is incompetent, a poor choice for this position. or, choose: "The fall of Neil Abercrombie", he will be unelectable. period. mahalo

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 5:26 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: thirr33@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM
Attachments: GM598 Richard Ha-Board of Agriculture.gif

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arvid Tadao Youngquist	1,978 "Conventional People"	Oppose	No

Comments: Chair Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Senate AGL Vice Chair, Sen. Ronald D. Kouchi (Vice President) & Rght Honorable Senate AGL Committee Members: Senators Donovan M. Dela Cruz, J. Kalani English, Laura H. Thielen, Glenn Wakai, & Sam Slom (Miority Leader) We submit a simple testimony in opposition and ask that the Governor resubmit another nominee instead of Mr. Richard Ha. Mahalo for this opportunity to submit a written testimony of opposition. Arvid Tadao Youngquist Spokesman, Founder & Admiistrator *Note: Son of a South Dakota and Canada farmer & gardenter and a registered voter (Kalihi Valley)

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:19 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: mikeluce@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Luce	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha, I support the confirmation of Richard Ha to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I have known Richard for over a decade and find his knowledge related to Sustainable Agriculture in general and Hawaiian Agriculture in particular to be superlative. Richard has been a hands-on Hawaii farmer for many years. His first hand knowledge, character and integrity are above reproach. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in favor of the confirmation of Richard Ha to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.
Mike Luce, Kohala/Kamuela

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 11:56 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: lorihiga@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Nakamura-Higa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a PUBLIC position. Please appoint someone without a bias slant towards private, pro-corporate interests and agendas. Mahalo.

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

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 11:49 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: lauryn_rego@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lauryn rego	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please appoint someone unbiased to this position.

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 11:41 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: foodsovereignty@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: We need a Ag Board that is more balanced. Richard Ha is overtly pro-biotech and highly critical of those who question GE technology. Please appoint somebody who will be neutral in making decisions for agriculture in Hawaii. Mahalo.

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 11:32 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: carliakala@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carla M. Buscaglia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: PLEASE do not elect, yet another pro-GMO advocate to the Board of Agriculture. Mahalo and good days to you. Carla M. Buscaglia

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

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 11:03 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: rodneye9110@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rodney Evans	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: No one who represents chemical companies and GMOs should be appointed to a board that overseas natural resources. We have had enough of this corruption and the degradation of our natural world in the name of greed. This board's responsibility is to protect our natural resources and manage them. Not to oversea their destruction and looting for a few individuals who hide behind corporate masks to get rich.

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:55 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: haroldmachugh@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harold Leslie	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Nominating this man to the Board of Agriculture is like adding an employee from Monsanto or Syngenta. Strongly oppose! We need a fair and balanced Board.

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:46 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: milolii12@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM*

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melia Leslie	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:13 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: jahnyah@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mike wilmeth	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Our family opposes the appt of Richard Ha and other pro GMO individuals to the board of agriculture. We support, organic sustainable agriculture for our islands. Please protect our children's future by appointing experts on organic ,natural, gmo free ag. .Mahalo, the Wilmeth family

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:04 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: jamcclu@monsanto.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joe McClure	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the nomination of Richard Ha. We need somebody in the role who has practical modern farming experience, who has shown the ability to start and run a successful business and who understands agriculture across the whole state and not just a vocal minority.

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:49 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: orchid6128@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM555 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM555

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
deb mader	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: My family opposes the appointment of Richard Ha. He is out of touch with the realities of pesticide use with GMOs in Hawaii. He places profit before people. We need more sustainable organic farming! Mahalo Deb Mader

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

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From: Gaylen Kalipi <gkalipi@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:46 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: Testimony in support of Richard Ha for Hawaii Board of Agriculture

LATE

Aloha Chairman Nishihara, Vice-Chair Kouchi and Members of the Agriculture Committee:

I am writing in strong support of Richard Ha's reappointment to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I grew up on Molokai, spent 18 years working on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, and then returned to Hawaii in 2006 to live in Hilo with my wife and two daughters.

I have admired Richard Ha's determination to educate our community about the challenges facing us related to food security and energy security. He is someone I respect greatly because of his honesty, selfless service, and endless efforts to find solutions that benefit communities as a whole. Hawaii currently imports 90% of our food. We need leaders who are willing to examine all options, who have the experience and wisdom to accurately assess information and who we can trust to make the right decisions. Richard Ha is this kind of leader and is exactly the type of person we need to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Sincerely,

Gaylen Kalipi
808-345-1141

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Ray Nakamura <rtnakamura@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:41 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Ray Nakamura
M. Nakamura Nursery, LLC

Ray Nakamura
1382 Pu'u Ale Place
Hilo, HI 96720

From: John Forster <Jomi@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:38 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

John Forster
727 kalanikoa st.
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

LATE

From: Charles Kinoshita <chaskino@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:26 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is one of Hawaii's leaders in agriculture. His confirmation to the Board of agriculture has been unduly opposed by the vocal anti-GM group. To my knowledge, Mr. Ha doesn't grow GMO crops on his farm in Hamakua; however, he advocates having different tools to succeed in agriculture, including genetic engineering.

I strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Charles Kinoshita

Charles Kinoshita
1207 Ala Aupaka Place
Honolulu, HI 96818

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:21 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: admin@kauaicountyfarmbureau.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM
Attachments: Richard Ha testimony Jerry Ornellas.docx

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kauai County Farm Bureau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: submitting by email for Jerry Ornellas due to connectivity problems with his computer

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

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:04 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: shannon@gcahawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM
Attachments: GM 598 Support Richard Ha Board of Ag 3 27 14.pdf

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Alivado	General Contractors Association of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:44 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: jerry@kauainursery.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Nishek	Kauai Nursery & Landscaping Inc.	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support Richard Ha's reconfirmation to the HBOA. We need someone with a strong farming background to help keep Agriculture alive in Hawaii.

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From: Jean Kawachika <Jeankawachika@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:37 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Jean Kawachika
Laula Rd
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:31 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: keaweehu@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM
Attachments: Testimony in favor of GM598.doc

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keawe Vredenburg	Hui Kako`o	Support	No

Comments:

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Hayde Sim <hpbsim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:23 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Hayde Sim
8 Koki Place
Kihei, HI 96753

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Alika Corpuz <corpuz5@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:11 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Alika Corpuz
505A HOALA Dr.
Kihei, HI 96753

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Della Allison Yamashiro <dellahilo@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:58 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Della Allison Yamashiro
Paukaa
Hilo, HI 96720

From: Stuart Nakamoto <snakamo@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:50 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: Richard Ha
Subject: Fwd: In Support of Richard Ha Nomination for Board of Agriculture

LATE

To Whom It May Concern;

My name is Stuart Nakamoto. I am an Extension Economist with the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and am part of the Risk Management Hawaii/LIFE team. The statements in this message are my own and do not represent the UH nor CTAHR.

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Richard Ha to a second term on the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture.

Richard brings a practical, common sense perspective to the table, as is reflected in his saying "If the farmers make money, the farmers will farm." He represents the silent majority among producers, and his credentials as a farmer are beyond question. We need that kind of representation for agriculture to be a vibrant part of the state and especially if Hawaii is to be self sustainable.

I strongly recommend that Richard Ha be re-appointed.

Respectfully,

Stuart T. Nakamoto

Stuart T. Nakamoto, Ph.D.
Professor and Extension Economist
Agricultural Economics and
Marketing of Perishable Products

Phone: (808) 956-8125
Fax: (808) 956-4883 or 956-4024
Email: snakamo@hawaii.edu

University of Hawaii at Manoa
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
Dept. of Human Nutrition, Food, and Animal Sciences
Agricultural Sciences Bldg 314B

mailing address:
UH-CTAHR HNFAS
1955 East-West Road, AgSci 314B
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: Jeff Tsue <j-pops-tsue@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:18 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Jeff Tsue
347 Walelia Place
HILO, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:40 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: lelan@kauainursery.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lelan Nishek	Kauai Nursery & Landscaping, Inc.	Support	No

Comments: Richard Ha should be confirmed due to his extensive experience as a successful farm operator. He has the knowledge and insight to successfully continue his tenure as a Board member.

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:21 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: beacheshawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terri Ribordy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to the confirmation of Mr. Ha to the Agriculture Board. I firmly believe that he should be disqualified due to his significant personal economic interests in the decision making process. I believe his personal interests are too significant to render his decision-making impartial. Agriculture is too important to our Ohana to allow personal financial bias into the decision making process. Please do not confirm.

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:19 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: dean@HawaiiGoesFishing.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Sensui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Richard Ha believes that good science plays an essential role in the application of agricultural technology. The people who make decisions that affect our state's food security have to be willing to find and apply verified scientific knowledge. I strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

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nishihara1 - Amanda

LATE

From: Philip Lansman <phil.lansman@monsanto.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 5:15 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,
Phil Lansman

Philip Lansman
92-6030 Makeke St
Kapolei, HI 96707

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:34 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: brian@hfbf.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM598 on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM*

LATE

GM598

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for AGL on Mar 27, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Miyamoto	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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LATE

From: Kayleen Sato <pukahead47@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:22 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

Chair Nishihara,

Richard Ha is an advocate for all forms of agriculture and sustainable energy in Hawai'i. He has a deep understanding of how agriculture is tied to our communities and our way of life. He always seeks to do what is "Right" versus what is easy...

He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Kayleen Sato
PO Box 7306
Hilo, HI 96720

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Tarring <tarring@lava.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:03 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: Appointment of Richard Ha to Hawaii Board of Agriculture

LATE

Aloha Senator Nishihara Agriculture Committee Chairman,

My name is Michael Tarring. I am President of Ohana Banana Farm Inc. I have been farming for thirty years and currently farm apple bananas on 120 acres of land in Keaau. We produce 2,500,000lbs. of high quality apple bananas sold through out the state of Hawaii. We also employ 27 workers on our farm full time.

I have known Richard Ha for thirty years and I consider him to be a very good farmer as well as a very important member of our Hawaii Ag. community. I would like to see Richard Ha reappointed to our state Ag. Board. We farmers need expert farmers like him representing us in Hawaii.

Please support his nomination.

Mahalo
Michael Tarring
Ohana Banana Farm Inc.

Aloha pumehana

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: Gloria Wong <Glow808@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:53 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: I, Strongly Support GM 598 ~ Richard Ha's Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture

LATE

Chair Nishihara,

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He has consistently advocated for positive solutions that benefit the majority. He is a man of great integrity and wisdom. The Board of Agriculture could not have a better advocate or ambassador of agriculture serving on its Board.

We strongly urge the committee to approve Mr. Ha's appointment to the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture Board.

Mahalo,

Gloria Wong
556 Nohea St
Hilo, HI 96720

From: Russell Nagata <russelln@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:27 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Subject: Support for Mr. Reggie Hasegawa

LATE

I support the confirmation of Mr. Reggie Hasegawa as a representative for the industry to the State Pesticides Advisory Committee.

Mr. Hasegawa is qualified due to his 29+ years of experience as a sales representative and then manager of United Agri-Products/
Crop Production Services.

Due to the increasing urbanization of the state of Hawaii, there has been a growing lack of appreciation and understanding of farming

and its many difficulties. Control of weeds and insect pests are necessary in order to produce crops. Even organic farming systems have approved pesticides to help them produce their crops organically.

As the State of Hawaii seeks improved food security in conjunction with environmental safety, it is important to have the best advice

of knowledgeable experts in pesticides and their safety. Again, I support the confirmation of Mr. Reggie Hasegawa to the State Pesticides Advisory Committee.

Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions.

To whom it Concern,

I support the confirmation of Mr. Reggie Hasegawa as an industry representative to the State of Hawaii Pesticide Advisory Committee. He has nearly 30 years of service to Hawaii in the distribution and sales of farm supplies including pesticides and is currently the manager of Crop Production Services. He has the expertise that is needed to make sound recommendation that will affect the health and safety of Hawaii residents. In this time of environmental awareness and the need to develop food sustainability locally he will be an important asset to the Committee.

On a personal note, he is easy to get along with, a consensus builder and forthcoming with factual information.

Pease contact me if you require additional information

Russell T. Nagata, PhD
Hawaii County Administrator
University of Hawaii at Manoa
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
Komohana Research and ExtensionCenter
Hilo, Hawaii
808-969-8209