



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Seventh Legislature, 2014 State of Hawaii

> Tuesday March 25, 2014 9:05AM Conference Room 211 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

COMMITTE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

A bill for an act HB 2426 HD1 SD1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

Support HB 2426 HD1 SD1

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

We **Support** HB2426 Relating to Biosecurity. As Farmers and Nurserymen we take pride in the products we grow and it is important that we be able to have our products reach the consumer. To be able to export products facilities and inspectors need to be available. These facilities can help to support agricultural growth. It is important that we have the proper funding for resources to import and export products in a safe and efficient manner. We believe if HB1994 or SB2347 passes into laws this funding is critical to allow the survival of agriculture.

We **SUPPORT** this bill and ask you to consider how we can better help all of Hawaii's Agriculture. If you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii, Eric S. Tanouve President Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association