

HB 2426, HD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

Report Title: Biosecurity Facilities; Invasive Species; General Obligation Bonds (\$)

Description: Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for the planning, design, and construction of biosecurity facilities at harbors and airports throughout the State. Effective July 1, 2014.
(HB2426 HD1)

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

KEN H. KAKESAKO
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
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TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014
2:45 P.M.
ROOM 225

HOUSE BILL NO. 2426 HD1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2426 HD1. This bill will provide funds for infrastructure and facilities at Hawaii's airports and harbors to bolster our biosecurity and prevent the introduction of new invasive species to Hawaii. The Department of Agriculture (DOA) supports this measure.

Regulation of the movement of commodities through our airports and harbors to monitor for invasive species is a vast responsibility that requires the coordination of various departments including, but not limited to: the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the Department of Health (DOH), and federal partners such as the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Ports of entry and exit such as our airports and harbors are in dire need of state of the art facilities that can serve as central points where all of these agencies can collaborate and consolidate their efforts.

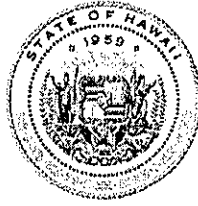
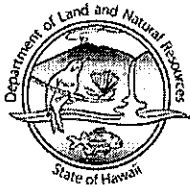
Currently, a multi-agency response is being coordinated through the Hawaii Invasive Species Council. Called Mamalu Poepoe, this initiative is pooling the expertise and resources of DOT, DLNR, DOH, and DOA to increase screening at our airports and



ports to stop the spread of invasive species before they can be established in our islands. DOT has already committed \$300,000 to this effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Tuesday, March 11, 2014
2:45 PM
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 225**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2426, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

House Bill 2426, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture for the planning, design, and construction of biosecurity facilities at points of entry. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) **supports this measure** and offers the following comments.

As an island state, Hawaii is particularly vulnerable to impacts from invasive species. Enhanced biosecurity at points of entry into the State, as well as airports and harbors used for intrastate travel between islands, remains a priority for minimizing the introduction and establishment of new pest species. The Department supports this measure and suggests that with regard to commodity inspection facilities, an emphasis be placed on the development of facilities that house both State and Federal inspectors, to facilitate information sharing and cooperation between agencies.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

JESSE SOUKI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KATHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

HB2426

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for ENE on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Parish	Oahu Invasive Species Committee	Support	No



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March 11, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB 2426HD1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY
Room 225
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

Hawaii Farm Bureau **stands in strong support of HB 2426HD1** providing an appropriation for biosecurity facilities at harbors and ports.

Facilities at ports and harbors are a critical component of Hawaii's Biosecurity Plan. HRS 266-21.5 articulates the role of the Department of Transportation:

<p>[§266-21.5] Biosecurity, inspection, and cargo support facilities. (a) The department of transportation shall provide space at commercial harbors for biosecurity and inspection facilities and to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of maritime cargo through the commercial harbors.</p> <p>(b) The department and department of agriculture shall plan, design, and construct biosecurity, inspection, consolidation, deconsolidation, and treatment facilities for use by the department of agriculture to enhance the efficient and safe movement of imported and exported marine cargo, to include food [safety] and food security guidelines and standards. [L 2011, c 202, §3]</p>
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Biosecurity facility design in ports and harbors that allow safe and timely inspections and efficient movement of cargo are vital to the agriculture economy. We strongly support funding for biosecurity as part of an ongoing process to improve the state's ports and harbors to implement the Hawaii Biosecurity Plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this important matter.

Please **support HB 2426HD1, providing the funds needed by HDOA and HDOT to include the necessary facility plans and implementation funds for biosecurity in harbor and port expansions/renovations.**

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 2426 HD1 Relating to Biosecurity
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 2:45PM, Room 225

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 2426 HD1 and its proposed funding to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA) for planning, design and construction for biosecurity facilities at harbors and airports.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawai'i's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive. Indeed, the colonization rate of introduced insects and mites in Hawai'i has been estimated at 500 times the rate of the continental United States.

Evidence from Hawai'i and around the world shows that preventing new pest establishment is exponentially more economical than eradicating a pest or, even worse, controlling it indefinitely once it becomes established. The HDOA has developed a multi-faceted Biosecurity Program in an effort to enhance invasive species prevention at air and sea ports with more inspectors, enhanced inspection systems and technologies, improved inspection facilities, and agreements with importers and producers for improved sanitary protocols. Having properly designed and controlled facilities for consolidation, inspection and, if necessary, treatment of cargo is essential to an effective biosecurity strategy, as well as to the efficient movement of goods into and out of the islands.

We also hope that providing the necessary and critical support for HDOA's Biosecurity Program and proper inspection and quarantine facilities at ports of entry will be additive and not prevent the Legislature, the Administration and partners from also devoting appropriate attention and funding to the full range of pest issues across the islands. Therefore, we respectfully ask that this Committee and the Legislature also take a comprehensive approach of providing significant and consistent funding to address the full range of invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research and outreach priorities across the state. The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council is the appropriate multi-agency venue for this broader effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

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March 11, 2014

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Honorable Russell Ruderman, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Re: HB 2426 HD1 - RELATING TO BIOSECURITY – SUPPORT THE INTENT
Conference Room 225 – 2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman and Members of the Committee:

The Airlines Committee of Hawaii* (ACH), which is made up of 21 signatory air carriers that underwrite the State Airport System appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony supporting the intent of HB 2426 HD1.

This measure issues general obligation bonds for the planning, design and construction of biosecurity facilities at harbors and airports throughout the state. Biosecurity is fundamental to the protection of the economy, environment, and health of our community, and the ACH supports policy and standards that seek to minimize the impact of pests and invasive plants and animals.

The ACH respectfully requests that the funds appropriated only be used for planning and design, as questions have been raised regarding the biosecurity facilities at airports. The ACH welcomes the opportunity to continue to collaborate with the Department of Agriculture on this issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Blaine Miyasato
ACH Co-chair

Matthew Shelby
ACH Co-chair

**ACH members are Air Canada, Air New Zealand, Air Pacific, Alaska Airlines, All Nippon Airways, Aloha Air Cargo, American Airlines, China Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Federal Express, go!, Hawaiian Airlines, Island Air, Japan Airlines, Korean Air, Philippine Airlines, Qantas Airways, United Airlines, United Parcel Service, US Airways, and Westjet.*



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HB2426, HD1 – Testimony

ENE – Senate Committee

March 11, 2014

Submitted by: Scott I. Murray, President – Able Freight Services, Inc.

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman and Members of the Committee:

Able Freight Services Inc. has been involved with the State of Hawaii’s Department of Transportation (HDOT) and the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) since 2007 to operate Biosecurity facilities (in general), and to assist with the Biosecurity program to safeguard Hawaii from any invasive species. Able Freight fully supports the intent of HB2426-HD1 and supports the Biosecurity program that includes an integrated system of on-port Biosecurity and/or transitional facilities and off-port transitional facilities, pursuant to HRS Chapter 150A-53 (4 & 5). Both Biosecurity and transitional facilities should house proper cold storage for inbound perishable cargo with an inspection area for the HDOA -Quarantine inspectors, treatment equipment, and office space.

It is imperative that the cold chain be maintained with the perishable cargo being either containerized or specially wrapped to prohibit any release of any invasive species and supporting and promoting all FDA required food and safety requirements.

To achieve the Biosecurity goals and objectives, Able Freight requests that the legislature revise HB2426 to amend the Hawaii Revised Statutes §150A-53 to insure that our efforts and resources to assist the HDOA in implementing an efficient and effective Biosecurity program which allows importers to meet the FEDERAL FOOD SAFETY requirements are not impeded now and in the future. In addition, during our sessions with Chairperson Enright, he agrees that transitional facilities shall continue as under past Administrations.

Therefore, we respectfully request that the HRS be amended to read, addition **underlined & bold**:

[§150A-53] General actions to achieve objectives. To achieve the objectives of the biosecurity program, the department shall plan for and, within available legislative appropriations, implement the following:

- (1) Work with government agencies and agricultural commodity exporters of other states and countries to establish pre-entry inspection programs under which inbound cargo into the State is inspected at the ports of departure or other points outside the State;
- (2) Establish, operate, or participate in operating port-of-entry facilities where multiple government agencies may inspect, quarantine, fumigate, disinfect, destroy, or exclude as appropriate, articles that may harbor pests or exclude articles that are prohibited or restricted without a permit, with the goals of:
 - (A) Performing inspections in an efficient, effective, and expeditious manner for the government agencies involved and for cargo owners, carriers, and importers; ~~and~~
 - (B) Providing for the proper and safe storage and handling of cargo, especially agricultural and food commodities, awaiting inspection; and
 - (C) **establishing or participating in private/public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and quarantine inspection, with on-port and off-port facilities, such as but not limited to: inspection, transitional, consolidation and deconsolidation, and treatments.**



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It is not feasible for there to be just ONE Biosecurity Facility at the Honolulu International Airport. At the HDOA's task force meeting on Tuesday the 18th of February, 2014 Mr. Scott Enright said "NOTHING has been decided" and "they are about 2 months before making any decisions and also that before a decision is made this task force will be informed". He stated that currently they are debating on having Hawaiian Airlines on one side of the airport(EWA), Pacific Air on the other side (Diamond Head) and a possible third biosecurity facility in the old Northwest building(Center of airport). He does NOT think it will be run by the HDOA but rather a third party.

Able Freight would like verbiage added to this bill and others that are related to the Biosecurity program that would permit an entity such as Able Freight, a freight forwarder, to become a Biosecurity facility on the Honolulu International or as a "Transitional Biosecurity facility" located off the actual airport in Honolulu and on the various Outer-islands. The costs of operating this type of facility is very costly unless the entity's business already encompasses the many facets of the Biosecurity facility for its' daily on-going business dealings. The basis of Able Freight's business already requires that we handle perishable cargo while simultaneously adhering to the principles of a Biosecurity facility and food safety regulations by the FDA and other institutions while maintaining the cold chain and integrity of the perishable products.

In fact, Able Freight's biosecurity and/or transitional facilities will actually SAVE the State of Hawaii money while accomplishing the objective of preventing the introduction of invasive species.

Able Freight is here to assist the State of Hawaii and the HDOA with implementing its Biosecurity program. My concern is that even though the bills regarding Biosecurity do not specifically deny Able Freight the opportunity, they do not give us the right. I request an addendum to this HB2426-HD1 with this addition; "companies in the transportation sector and freight forwarders that are currently transporting and handling perishable cargo business be allowed to operate a Biosecurity facility on the airport or off the airport as a Biosecurity/transitional and use funds as set aside by the State for this purpose."

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this important matter.