



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2014  
10:01 A.M.  
ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2426  
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

Chairperson Wooley and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2426. 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 and we feel that the more funding provided in this measure would further support this movement.

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 House Committee on  
AGRICULTURE**

**Monday, February 10, 2014  
10:01 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2426  
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

House Bill 2426 proposes to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) 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

**ESTHER KIA'AINA**  
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  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



Testimony of  
GLENN M. OKIMOTO  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
RANDY GRUNE  
AUDREY HIDANO  
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 10, 2014  
10:01 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 312

**H.B. 2426**  
**RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

House Committee on Agriculture

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2426 which will provide general funds to the Department of Agriculture to further assist their infrastructure and facility requirements to bolster our biosecurity and prevent the introduction of new invasive species at Hawaii's airports and harbors that might be harmful to Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



HB2426 – Testimony  
AGR – House Committee

February 10, 2014

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

Aloha Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committee:

Able Freight Services Inc. has been involved with the State of Hawaii's Department of Transportation and the Department of Agriculture 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 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 Department of Agriculture -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.

Able Freight has already made financial expenditures and commitments for facilities in Kona and Honolulu with plans for all the islands. We are ready to commence but are being put on hold by the lack of approval from the Department of Agriculture. We submitted plans to Scott Enright for our Kona facility on December 11th, 2013 and we have our Honolulu plans available for approval so that we may begin manufacturing the special cold storage rooms.

It is not feasible for there to be just **ONE biosecurity facility** at the Honolulu International Airport as one site facility could not physically handle **ALL** the inbound perishable cargo. The individual airlines can barely handle their own cargo, let alone trying to consolidate all the airline perishable shipments into one facility. There is a need for a system of **multiple biosecurity and transitional facilities, especially with the dynamics of air transportation.** Additionally, the costs to operate one facility would only be financially feasible if the costs to the importers were increased so **SUBSTANTIALLY** that the ultimate end consumer or resident of the State of Hawaii would have to **pay DOUBLE or TRIPLE** for what they currently pay for their inbound perishables.

Able Freight is here to assist the State of Hawaii and the Department of Agriculture with implementing its Biosecurity Program and only needs its approval to continue and actually open and operate Able's on-airport biosecurity station(transitional facility)in Kona and a transitional off-site facility in Honolulu.

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





TESTIMONY OF TIM STRAUSS ON BEHALF OF HAWAIIAN AIRLINES  
RE: H.B. 2426, RELATING TO BIOSECURITY  
Monday, February 10, 2014

Aloha Chair Wooley and Vice Chair Onishi, and members of the House committee on Agriculture,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in regard to H.B. 2426, which appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture's biosecurity program.

It is our understanding that the Department is seeking funding for a single-source biosecurity location at Honolulu International Airport. We certainly appreciate the Legislature's desire and intent to protect the spread of invasive species in Hawai'i. However, we agree with other carriers and forwarders of cargo that the safest and most cost-effective way to protect our environment is via satellite biosecurity facilities operated on and off the airport premises by the carriers and forwarders themselves.

Airlines such as Hawaiian that bring in produce and freight forwarders currently serving the market already have, or will have by the end of the year, the facilities to perform 100% inspection in a contained and chilled environment as established by Act 202 (2011 Legislature). In addition, the IT systems currently utilized by the forwarding industry supplies all the data required by the State Department of Agriculture and in a much more flexible and modern format than the Invictus software being tested by the State over the past year. Utilizing these already superior software systems will also remove the duplication of entry required with the Invictus tool.

The initial analysis done by cargo and freight carriers and forwarders is that mandating screening from a single location will add more than 10 percent to the cost of all produce entering Hawai'i, because the single source solution may eliminate market dynamics that lead to innovation and lowered expenses.

The single-source facility also removes each carrier's ability to differentiate itself on the basis of performance, service, pricing and customer relations – all important elements of an efficient and cost-effective product.

For these reasons, Hawaiian Airlines respectfully urges the committees to defer any funding for a single-source biosecurity program.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Tim Strauss  
Managing Director  
Cargo Sales and Service  
Hawaiian Airlines

**onishi2-Micah-Seth**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 07, 2014 2:06 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2426 on Feb 10, 2014 10:01AM

**HB2426**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2014 10:01AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: the invasive species situation is out of hand here in Hawaii. I support this bill and efforts at increasing inspections at our ports and harbors.

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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**onishi2-Micah-Seth**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 06, 2014 7:09 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** icalkins@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2426 on Feb 10, 2014 10:01AM  
**Attachments:** .~lock.DEMOCRATIC PARTY LINE.odt#

**HB2426**

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2014 10:01AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
IRA CALKINS	Individual	Support	No

Comments: IRA CALKINS INNER-GOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH 730 Captain Cook Ave Unit 426 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2161 808-4696434 808-3498667 FAX 5454707 Washington D.C. 202-697-9782 It does not matter what the people think, the Democratic Party has already decided for us on all bills before the State of Hawaii Legislature . The chairman's in all committee meetings has a script to follow that the Speaker of the House, and the Speaker of the Senate has given the Committee Chairs to follow, to instruct the committee how to vote on a any given bill in all committees of the State of Hawaii Legislature. It is determined ahead of time by the Democratic Party how a committee will vote on any given bill in the State of Hawaii Legislature there is no democracy in this state, no will of the people. It appears the Legislators are being black mailed in to voting the Democratic party line or the Democratic Party will not support them in there next election. Ira Calkins

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