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February 26, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 2077  
RELATING TO THE MAUI FOOD INNOVATION CENTER

Room 211  
10:30 AM

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

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 **strongly supports SB 2077** that authorized the issuance of general obligation bonds for the completion of the Maui Food Innovation Center.

As expenses rise, increases in farm revenues are critical to the continued viability of farms and ranches. One way is to turn waste to value added products. Currently off-grade and excess production due to market conditions is wasted, usually plowed under due to lack of markets. Converting them into value-added products will not only increase farm revenue but also provide new business opportunities, increase employment opportunities and address Hawaii's goals of increased self sufficiency and sustainability.

These facilities can assist in the replacement imported fresh produce as well as canned and frozen food products. The funding of facilities on Galbraith lands is currently under consideration by the Legislature. Similar facilities are needed on neighbor islands reducing the need for transportation of fresh bulk produce coupled with requisite shipping costs and the burning of fossil fuels. These facilities represent the manifestation of local food security for our island state, and will keep dollars and jobs in our local economy.

**Please support SB 2077**



HAWAII  
STRATEGIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

Written Statement of

**KARL FOOKS**  
**President**

Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation

Before the  
**COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS**

**February 26, 2014**  
**10:30 AM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

In consideration of  
**SB 2077 RELATING TO THE MAUI FOOD INNOVATION CENTER**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

The Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation (HSDC) respectfully submits testimony in **strong support** of SB 2077, legislation appropriating funds for the University of Hawaii Maui College's Maui Food Innovation Center, as it aligns with the HI Growth Initiative.

HSDC strongly supports the Maui Food Innovation Center's mission to provide local farmers and food manufacturers with mentorship and access to shared resources to help them build viable global businesses here in Hawaii. Through the HI Growth Initiative, HSDC is working on creating investment funds that would complement the Maui Food Innovation Center's activities by providing investment capital to help their business clients to scale their operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Written Statement of  
**ROBBIE MELTON**  
**Executive Director & CEO**  
High Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON**  
**WAYS AND MEANS**

Wednesday, February 26, 2014  
10:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211  
In consideration of

**SB 2077 RELATING TO THE MAUI FOOD INNOVATION CENTER.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) offers **strong support** for SB2077 relating to the Maui Food Innovation Center. HTDC supports the Maui Food Innovation Center's goal of improving the food production industry and growing Hawaii businesses in this arena through training, workforce development, mentorship and resources. Maui College has a strong team and presents a clear vision of the business opportunities this resource will provide the community and the State. HTDC's Innovate Hawaii program, supporting Hawaii manufacturers, has been integrally involved in the planning with Maui College and is eagerly anticipating the center's completion to serve as a valuable resource for Hawaii. HTDC has committed to serve as a partner in the center.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2077 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM\*  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 10:25:54 PM

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**SB2077**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

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