

State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

FEBRUARY 19, 2014, 9:05 A.M. ROOM 211

SENATE BILL NO. 2296, SD1 RELATING TO THE DISPOSITION OF LANDS MANAGED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2296, SD 1. The purpose of this bill is to allow the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to select qualified applicants as backup lessees with whom the HDOA may negotiate upon the failure by the highest offering bidder. The HDOA supports this bill.

A significant portion of the HDOA's mission is to provide small farmers the opportunity to develop a successful agricultural business. This provides positive benefits to the State in many ways, including economic development and achieving greater food self-sufficiency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

