



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Comments to the
House Committee on Agriculture
and
House Committee on Economic Development and Business
Monday, March 10, 2014 at 10:30 am
by
Maria Gallo, Dean
and
J. Kenneth Grace, Interim Associate Dean for Research
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2400 SD2 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairs Wooley and Tsuji, Vice Chairs Onishi and Ward, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture and House Committee on Economic Development and Business, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2400 SD2.

We support this interagency planning activity and will assist to the best of our abilities. As no funds are currently provided for the planning activity, and the lands in question are under the direct management of the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) and the Department of Agriculture (DOA), we ask that these agencies chair the interagency effort and absorb any planning costs.

We see a strong role for CTAHR in providing extension services to tenants as well as conducting relevant research to maximize the potential of this agricultural resource for the people of Hawai'i. Our ability to implement any additional assistance program for the lands managed by ADC and DOA, beyond the support and training that we provide to all agricultural producers in the State of Hawai'i, will be dependent upon having the personnel and resources required for such implementation.

We are pleased to participate in this important effort.

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 10:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: evensen@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2400 on Mar 10, 2014 10:30AM

SB2400

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for AGR/EDB on Mar 10, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Evensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this interagency planning activity to provide greater access to agricultural training for Hawaii's farmers.

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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March 10, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2400, SD2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Room 312
10:30 AM

Aloha Chair Wolley, Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, Vice Chair Ward, 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.

HFBF supports SB 2400, SD2 which creates a partnership between the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) and the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) to develop a new farmer program. This measure also directs the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) and ADC to develop a coordinated strategy for state leases for all size farmers and to maximize the use of the State's agricultural assets to support new and specialty crops.

We applaud the initiative taken by the introducers of this bill to provide research, including crop, market and human resource capacity, educational opportunities, services, and other resources to assist new and existing agricultural businesses to thrive and grow.

CTAHR has a century-long history of supporting agriculture in Hawaii, caring for the environment and enhancing and sustaining ecosystems. CTAHR's scientific community has been crucial to the development of the agricultural sector. We believe that CTAHR's mandate to engage in research, instruction, and outreach, plays a vital role in the success of Hawaii's agricultural industry.

We support this partnership between CTAHR, HDOA, and ADC which we believe will teach people interested in a farming and ranching career how to grow, raise, process, capital management, land management, and other components to successfully operate

a farming or ranching business. If successful, this model can be applied and used on other agriculture regions throughout Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

onishi2-Micah-Seth

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Cc: sustainablesakala@gmail.com
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SB2400

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Sakala	Kona Chapter Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

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Cc: legechair@gmail.com
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SB2400

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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