

**SB2454  
LATE  
TESTIMONY**

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January 30, 2014

**REVISED TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION**

LATE

TESTIMONY OF GARY L. HOOSER  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
SB 2454, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE  
Committee on Agriculture  
Committee on Higher Education  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Thursday, January 30, 2014  
3:20 p.m.  
Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Taniguchi, Chair Hee, and Committee Members:

I would like to submit this testimony in OPPOSITION of SB 2454, relating to the establishment of a task force that will evaluate and determine whether a state-established regulatory regime is essential to address agricultural use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). This testimony is intended to replace a previous testimony I submitted on January 29, 2014, which stated that I "support this measure in principle."

I oppose this measure unless an amendment is made to include representation from each County and from small farmers that utilize conventional and organic methods, not just GMO technology, on the task force. I believe including all affected parties is imperative and will constitute a more accurate and impartial outcome.

In addition, any statewide regulatory scheme must represent "a floor not a ceiling," and not preempt counties from enacting greater protection if circumstances specific to that county warrants.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request the Committee to amend SB 2454 with respect to my comments. Again, thank you for this opportunity to submit my revised testimony.

Sincerely,

GARY L. HOOSER

Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AB:cy

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

## nishihara1 - Amanda

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**From:** BabesAgainstBiotech . <babesagainstbiotech@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 30, 2014 3:49 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Subject:** SB2454

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LATE

### Senate Agriculture Committee

January 30, 2014

### SB2454 Comments

Room 229 3:20 PM

Aloha Honorable Chair and Senators,

In the interest of a fair and balanced assessment should this legislation pass, we offer you comments on expanding the stakeholders of this proposed task force and selection of the scientists.

We respectfully request that if you do plan to pass this bill that you please include equally balanced organic farming associations, groups or private sector stakeholders which are not already showing public alliance with the chemical industry practicing genetic engineering such as the Farm Bureau. We would also request you include since one of the greatest concerns about GMO farming is cross contamination and pesticide drift, runoff and leaching.

Furthermore, we would be more comfortable with scientists that are not solely appointed by the Governor. As you know, the Governor appointed a lobbyist for Monsanto last year to the nominating committee for water commissioners. He later withdrew after public outrage over Senator Solomon and Senator Kim's appointment of another Monsanto lobbyist to the same committee, Alan Takemoto. He has received a significant amount of campaign funding from these GMO producing chemical companies and has been recorded addressing the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association GMO industry lobbying group assuring them of his complete support for the GMO industry.

We would prefer to include a wider group of stakeholders including organic farming associations, consumer associations and members of the organic and non-GMO private sectors.

We are against the inclusion of the genetically engineered papaya farmers association unless you also balance the committee with equal numbers of organic stakeholders. Due to lack of scientific consensus on GMO safety as stated in an open letter signed by many reputable scientists collected by European Network of Scientists for Social and Environmental Responsibility.

Furthermore the 2013 United Nations Trade and Environmental Review called **Wake Up Before It's Too Late** advocated that we do not wait to retract from industrial monocropping, petrochemical, intensive farming method to small scale organic farming insisting again like the 2010 report, these changes are critical.

Best Regards,

--  
**Nomi Carmona**  
President  
Babes Against Biotech  
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<http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=666>

<http://www.ensser.org/increasing-public-information/no-scientific-consensus-on-gmo-safety/>

**nishihara1 - Amanda**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** maefuimaono@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2454 on Jan 30, 2014 15:20PM

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**SB2454**

Submitted on: 1/30/2014

Testimony for AGL/HRE/JDL on Jan 30, 2014 15:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Fuimaono	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Aloha, It is the assertion of the GMO lobbyist's and the industry to promote GMO food as safe, they have paid for their own research. Why does my tax money need to go to pay members of the biotech community to spit out their studies that we all know will be in favor of GMO's. When you look at all of the corporations and lobbyists who support this bill it is obvious who it will benefit. Let Monsanto, Dow, Bayer, Mycogen, Syngenta and Pioneer pay for their own studies after all aren't they a billion dollar industry? Please in a time of austerity don't waste the tax payers money on this

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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nishihara1 - Amanda

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**Sent:** Thursday, January 30, 2014 5:19 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2454 on Jan 30, 2014 15:20PM\*

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**SB2454**

Submitted on: 1/30/2014

Testimony for AGL/HRE/JDL on Jan 30, 2014 15:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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