



LATE

TESTIMONY OF TIM STRAUSS ON BEHALF OF HAWAIIAN AIRLINES
RE: S.B. 2458, RELATING TO BIOSECURITY
Thursday, February 6, 2014

Aloha Chairmen Gabbard and Nishihara, Vice Chairmen Ruderman and Kouchi, and members of the committee on Energy and Environment and Agriculture,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in regard to S.B. 2458, 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 Act202 / HB1568. 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



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Seventh Legislature, 2014
State of Hawaii

A bill for an act
SB 2458 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

Support SB 2458

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

We Support SB2458 Relating to Biosecurity. This program has been one of the few successful programs that dealt with the prevalent problems of pest prevention and pest mitigation. This program was not focused on blaming and impeding our industry, but instead it was a program that helped us move forward in pest management and other critical agricultural issues. This program showed its success by having the Hawaii Department of Agriculture work together with the stakeholders and counties. Unfortunately, it was pushed to the side by the current administration and this is a program that we need to have back.

We **SUPPORT** this bill and ask you to consider other measures that can better help all of Hawaii's Agriculture. If you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,

Eric S. Tanouye
President
Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association



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LATE

February 6, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 2458
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Room 225
3:30 PM

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Chair English, 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 SB2458**, continuing the Biosecurity Plan currently outlined in law.

Control of invasive species cannot be successfully accomplished on a pest-by-pest basis or after the pest has reached our shores. It takes a comprehensive plan of prevention, protection, emergency response, and control integrating all sectors ranging from transportation, to environment and agriculture. This is the vision of the Hawaii Biosecurity Plan.

HDOA has repeatedly met with farmers in all counties to establish programs that will grow agriculture so imports can be reduced and in the worst case scenarios such as the Myrtaceae, stopped. This program must continue. Invasive species control is good for the environment and it is good for agriculture.

Please **support SB2458**.

Thank you!

SUPPORT SB2458

LATE

The Legislature finds that the unchecked spread of invasive species is one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. Invasive pest can cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forest, the spread of disease, and the quarantine of exported agricultural crops.

Despite our ongoing efforts to detect and eradicate invasive species, our fragile island ecosystems are constantly at risk from insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other invasive pest. The coqui frog, *Salvinia molesta*, *Miconia calvenscens*, ohia rust, nettle caterpillar, and little fire ant are all present in Hawaii, disrupting the delicate balance of our ecosystems, crowding out native species, and reducing the biodiversity of our islands.

The Department of Agriculture has created a biosecurity program to fight invasive species on several fronts.

The Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawaii supports this bill.