

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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LATE

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
TUESDAY JANUARY 28, 2014
2:45 P.M.
Room 229
SENATE BILL NO. 2762
RELATING TO HAWAII GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2762 relating to Hawaii Good Agricultural Practices. This bill establishes a Hawaii good agricultural practices program to develop science and risk-based good agricultural practices that reasonably reduce the potential for on-farm food-borne illness, educate and train Hawaii farmers on good agricultural practices, and develop a consumer information program for home practices on treatment and handling of fresh and processed agricultural food products.

The Department appreciates the intent of this measure but believes it may be premature. Act 106, SLH 2013 created a good agricultural task force to identify and develop good agricultural practices and preventative measure guidelines in the food supply system to improve the overall safety of locally grown food. The task force will be convening at the end of January 2014 and the department intends to continue these meetings until the dissolution of the task force to identify and develop good agricultural guidelines for agricultural producers and report its recommendations to the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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LATE

January 27, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 2762
RELATING TO HAWAII GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES
Room 229
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee:

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 **supports this bill** creating a Hawaii Good Agricultural Practices standards.

Farmers and ranchers face many regulatory challenges ranging from soil preparation to post harvest handling. Practices to manage soil erosion are important to protect the topsoil but also to avail farmers and ranchers to funding and technical assistance and exempt themselves from County grubbing and grading ordinances. Field management and post management practices impact farm and ranch food safety compliance. New and immigrant farmers and ranchers may not be aware of existing regulations and standards. Establishment of a set of standards that can be easily accessed will be a great help to everyone. Currently, information is scattered and difficult to access by new farmers.

The proposed Food Safety Modernization Act has a provision for submittal of state variances to address unique situations. This can only occur because the State has procedures in place for submittal. The GAP process will provide a good basis to meet the needs of our growers that face unique situations. For example, our farmers grow multiple crops in very small parcels with harvest boxes containing various crops from different areas of the farm. Food safety inspectors have admitted that they could not see how certification could be accomplished under these conditions. A strong GAP process to ensure the safety of the product along with a practical traceability process would help our farmers.

HFBF is ready and willing to work with HDOA and Legislature to make this work. We respectfully request your strong support of this measure. Thank you.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: farmfreshhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2762 on Jan 28, 2014 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 6:12:29 AM

LATE

SB2762

Submitted on: 1/28/2014

Testimony for AGL on Jan 28, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Juanita Kawamoto Brown | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: GAPs help everyone everywhere from farm to table.

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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