

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2970, S.D.1

FEBRUARY 19, 2014

RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO
ASSIST BIOTORK HAWAII, LLC

Senate Bill No. 2970, S.D.1, authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds (SPRB) for the purpose of assisting Biotork Hawaii, LLC., a Delaware corporation, with the planning, permitting, design, construction, equipping, and operation of a facility to convert agricultural crops and byproducts to biofuels and feed pursuant to Part V, Chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Department has no position on the issuance of SPRBs as contemplated in this bill. The Department would like to advise the Legislature and prospective issuers that should the legislation be approved, approval of SPRB issuance will still require further discussion and satisfactory review of the financing components involved in the transaction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



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
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014
ROOM 211
9:25 A.M.

SENATE BILL NO. 2970 SD1
RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO
ASSIST BIOTORK HAWAII

Chairperson Ige and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill No. 2970 SD1. This measure seeks to assist BioTork Hawaii LLC with the planning, permitting, design, construction, equipping, and operation of a facility to convert agricultural crops and byproducts to biofuels and feed. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this bill.

The high cost of energy and livestock feed are significant hurdles for farmers in Hawaii, and research in converting agricultural crops and byproducts to biofuels and protein feed, is an important step towards food sustainability. BioTork's proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2970 on Feb 19, 2014 09:25AM*
Date: Sunday, February 16, 2014 9:53:07 AM

SB2970

Submitted on: 2/16/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 19, 2014 09:25AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments:

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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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2970 on Feb 19, 2014 09:25AM
Date: Monday, February 17, 2014 4:29:18 PM

SB2970

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 19, 2014 09:25AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sally kaye	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There should be a competitive bidding process for 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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February 18, 2013

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Marie C. Blanco
Falls Church, Virginia

SUBJECT: S.B. 2970, SD1 - RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE
REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST BIOTORK HAWAII, LLC

Wednesday, February 19, 2014; 9:25 a.m.
Conference Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Ige and Vice Chair Kidani. I respectfully request acceptance of my testimony in support of Senate Bill 2970, SD1, relating to the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist BioTork Hawaii, LLC.

For 34 years, I had the honor and privilege to work for the late United States Senator Daniel K. Inouye, and also served as his Chief of Staff for his Washington, D.C. office. Although I am no longer in public service, I continue to monitor some of the Senator's funding initiatives especially as it relates to agriculture and energy. One of these initiatives is the United States Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center (PBARC) in Hilo, Hawaii, which the United States Congress recently renamed the Daniel K. Inouye United States Pacific Basin Agriculture Research Center.

PBARC is the only federal facility conducting research on the tropical agriculture in Hawaii and the American affiliates in the Pacific Basin. While the region is sparsely populated, it is huge – comparable in size to the contiguous 48 States. In addition, the agricultural systems are uniquely tropical and as such cannot benefit from the vast temperate agricultural knowledge base of the continental United States. Accordingly, in the planning and subsequent establishment of PBARC in 2007, it was Senator Inouye's vision, among other things, to move the State of Hawaii to the forefront of leading agriculture research and technologies, and to work with then PBARC Director Dr. Dennis Gonsalves, to provide this pathway forward. In fact, it was Dr. Gonsalves, who introduced BioTork's technology by way of his research relating to Zero Waste.

In this regard, I am very pleased with the progress PBARC and BioTork have made in the conversion of low and no-value agricultural products to higher value oil and high protein feed. I am also excited about the potential opportunities this technology provides in the conversion of molasses to fish feed.

I have had the opportunity to work on many agriculture and energy related initiatives. I am proud to say that this is another example of how Senator Inouye's legacy continues to touch the heart and soul of our Aloha State. Mahalo.