

**SB 3026**

**LATE  
TESTIMONY**



SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Wednesday, February 5, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 225

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 3026, Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds for the Waimea-Paauilo Watershed Project**

Dear Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am general partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase renewable energy, and reduce/recycle waste. Ulupono invests in projects that have the potential to create large-scale, innovative change.

**Ulupono strongly supports SB 3026**, which authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for the Waimea-Paauilo watershed project. In identifying the most successful regions for local food production, the north side of the Big Island stands out as one of the state's best. This area has numerous farmers and ranchers that are productively feeding our local population.

Ulupono sees tremendous potential in the region for developing grass fed livestock, whose costs are less tied to volatile fossil fuel and imported feed prices. We believe this can make the local cattle industry thrive in a long-term economically sustainable way. Ulupono has and is currently working with agricultural entities in the region on projects to do so.

The key driver of successful grass fed operations is the rancher's ability to grow the most nutritious grasses at the fastest rate. This requires consistent access to water, be it for free from rainfall or through irrigation in drier times. However, much of the waterfall is not adequately captured in the region. The funding from this bill will provide our local farmers and ranchers access to more water as there is already a shortage. Currently, local farmers and ranchers in the region are already purchasing all available water from the Waimea irrigation system.

We believe that working together we can help produce more local food, support an economically strong homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta  
General Partner

Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dreid@nrahq.org](mailto:dreid@nrahq.org)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3090 on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:08:35 PM

---

**SB3090**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Reid	National Rifle Association	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jasonmoniz73@gmail.com](mailto:jasonmoniz73@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3026 on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:28:02 PM

---

**SB3026**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jason Moniz	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)