



STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
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TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 26, 2014
9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211

SENATE BILL NO. 3065, SD1
RELATING TO LAND EXCHANGE

Chairperson Ige and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3065, SD1 a bill which appropriates funds to investigate the possibility of exchanging state land for land owned by Dole Food Company, Inc., and for costs of executing the exchange. The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) supports the intent of this measure.

ADC's mission is to acquire, and manage in partnership with farmers, ranchers, and aquaculture groups, selected high-value lands, water systems, and infrastructure for commercial agricultural use and to direct research into areas that will lead to the development of new crops, markets, and lower production costs. This bill will assist ADC to achieve its mission and further provide the state with an opportunity to preserve the largest agricultural tract on Oahu.

ADC has recently undertaken the Whitmore Project which is a long-range plan to create a centralized hub for agricultural operations in Central Oahu that includes but is not limited to commercial farming, land acquisition, packing, processing, workforce housing, food safety, education, value-added, marketing, high-tech, agro-tourism and manufacturing.

In conjunction with the Whitmore Project, ADC has recently acquired property with existing infrastructure to provide support services for farmers on the Galbraith Lands. On top of that, the application request for Galbraith land has exceeded the land availability therefore the possibility of the state acquiring more agricultural land will allow more farmers the opportunity to increase local food production.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2014
9:00 A.M.
ROOM 211

SENATE BILL NO. 3065 SD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Ige and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3065 SD1. This measure seeks to appropriate funds to investigate the possibility of exchanging state land for certain lands owned by Dole Food Company, Inc., and for costs of executing the exchange if appropriate state land is found.

The Dole lands amount to approximately 20,000 acres of agricultural and conservation lands. Protecting and preserving Hawaii's agricultural lands is essential for Hawaii's food sustainability goals. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this bill, but defers to the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

C O N S E R V I N G L A N D F O R P E O P L E

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND'S TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE INTENT OF SB 3065, SD 1 RELATING TO LAND EXCHANGE

Senate Committees on Ways & Means

Wednesday, February 26, 9:00 a.m., Room 211

The Trust for Public Land supports the intent of SB 3065, SD 1 relating to land exchange. This bill, as amended, proposes to set aside an unspecified amount of general revenue to pay for costs associated with an exchange of State owned land for nearly 20,000 acres of agricultural and conservation lands owned by Dole Foods LLC on the North of O'ahu. The Dole lands include prime agricultural land, watershed lands that produce our drinking water, lands that are the scenic gateway to the North Shore, and lands that are important habitat for dozens of endangered and threatened plant and animal species.

The Trust for Public Land is currently working with one of the largest renewable energy companies in the world to purchase the Dole lands and give the State time (3-5 years) to raise funds to purchase the Dole lands for agriculture and conservation of important watershed lands that produce our drinking water. The renewable energy company does not yet have a contract or deal with Dole, but hopes to have a tentative deal or letter of intent with Dole before the end of session. The Trust for Public Land is working with State Agribusiness Development Corporation and the Department of Land and Natural Resources to raise other sources of funding (e.g., federal, private) so that the burden is not entirely on the State. Purchasing the Dole land (currently listed at over \$200 million) will be a complex and difficult transaction. The State needs flexibility and alternatives to achieve the goal of conserving all of the Dole lands and this bill attempts to provide such flexibility by appropriating funds to support the a possible land exchange.

The Trust for Public Land does not know and has questions regarding whether the state agencies, legislators, and communities affected by the land exchange support the land exchange (or an appropriation of funds to pay for costs associated with the land exchange). However, in general, The Trust for Public Land supports the intent of the bill to secure the Dole lands. Although we support the intent of the bill, I will not be able to appear in person to testify.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify -



Lea Hong
Hawaiian Islands State Director
1136 Union Mall, Suite 202
Honolulu, HI 96813
524-8563 (office), 783-3653 (cell)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM*
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 5:36:16 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	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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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: swhalen@harc-hspa.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 2:51:31 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie A Whalen	HARC	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senators: This proposal is a reasonable way to secure productive agricultural land without an outlay of public funds. The public has indicated his support for agricultural lands that have for decades been targeted for urbanization with an ag/urban boundary already set. The land in this proposal is good ag land. However, as many land owners exiting the holding of ag land the parcels are in large blocks out of the reach of the size farmers in the transition from large to small ag holdings. In order to keep this land out of developers control while not putting out a significant cast outlay a land swap has many advantages. This bill allows the advancement of that idea. If you really support having resonably good agricultural land available for future generations, this idea merits fleshing out. Please support this proposal.

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**SB 3065sd1, Relating to Land Exchange
Senate Ways and Means Committee
Wednesday, February 26, 2014
9:00 am
Conference Room 211**

**Testimony by: Larry Jefts
Position: Support**

Chair Ige and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I am Larry Jefts, co-owner of Sugarland Growers, Inc., a family run farm with more than 35 years experience of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu.

SB3065sd1 is supported because it facilitates the State's investigation and executing, if appropriate, the exchange of state land for approximately 20,000 acres of agricultural and conservation land owned by Dole Food Company, Inc. The State's purchase of the 20,000 acres is preferred over parcel by parcel sales and at varying prices per parcel. A consolidated approach by the State would provide consistent agriculture infrastructure oversight and agriculture development in the Central Oahu and North Shore regions of Oahu.

Your support of this measure is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony. I can be reached at (808) 688-2892 if there are any questions.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: alex.kanamu@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 10:56:21 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Kanamu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Wahiawa resident I am looking forward to this being passed to help ensure more lands to get local farmers to scale. Thanks Alex Kanamu

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: highwayresponse@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:33:52 AM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alison Dela Pena	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a resident/business owner in the Whitmore Village/Wahiawa community. I support this bill due to it will create a lot of various job opportunities for the everyone. Thank you!

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Cc: readysetgoing@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 6:52:54 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
B Yee	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Protect and preserve natural assets for the future generations!!

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Cc: ad-venture@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 12:32:39 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel S. Nakasone	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to understand what's happening globally that can impact Hawaii and make decisions accordingly. The perfect storm of relentless population growth, declining water resources and extreme weather events will create an enormous global demand for food. This will translate to ever increasing food prices and put our food insecure families at a higher risk. We must have the means to grow our own food to help raise our level of food security and we must act today. Preserving these farmlands is imperative for O'ahu with our population base.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jeffreyalameida@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 7:24:03 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jeffrey alameida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge the members of this committee to support the additional funding necessary to allow research into the possibility of exchanging state land for certain parcels of land currently owned by Dole Food Company, Inc., and to pay for costs of executing the exchange if appropriate state land is found. Doing so will help support local, sustainable economic and community development initiatives; and increase employment and economic opportunities for residents in adjoining communities by expanding and strengthening our economic base through agribusiness development. In addition, this act serves as the cornerstone towards building a sound, secure, food growing, and processing infrastructure to feed Hawaii residents. I am in full support of HB 3065 and urge your favorable consideration and passage of this important Bill. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Jeffrey Alameida Resident

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: roslynn61@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM*
Date: Monday, February 24, 2014 10:17:42 PM

SB3065

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roslynn Pascua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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