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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3065 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 3:31:55 PM

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**SB3065**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alvin Law	FAT Law's Farm	Support	No

Comments:

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February 26, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 3065, SD1  
RELATING TO LAND EXCHANGE

Room 211  
9:00 AM

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB 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.

**HFB is in strong support of SB 3065, SD1**, 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.

HFB believes that in order for agriculture to flourish in Hawaii and reach their full potential, land availability and long-term leases at affordable and predictable lease rental rates are crucial. The acquisition by the state of the Dole Lands will significantly increase the available agricultural land under the State's control and will provide farmers with long-term leases that will enhance the economic viability of Hawaii's agriculture industry.

We believe this is an opportunity to further support and expand the state's ability to provide prime agricultural lands for farmers, which is consistent with the State's goal of increasing self sufficiency and sustainability.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Food Company Hawaii**

1116 Whitmore Avenue • Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786



Late Testimony by Dan Nellis  
Operations Director, Dole Food Company Hawai'i  
February 25, 2014

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

**Support of:**  
SB 3065 SD1  
Relating to Land Exchange

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

I am Dan Nellis, Operations Director of Dole Food Company Hawai'i. We support SB 3065 SD1 to appropriate funds to investigate the possibility of exchanging state land for certain parcels of land currently owned by Dole Food Company, Inc., and for costs of executing the exchange as one method to acquire certain excess lands owned by Dole Food Company in the Central Oahu and North Shore regions of Oahu. Ownership of these lands could facilitate the State's mandate to conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands and to protect lands that are suitable for conservation or preservation.

Dole Food Company has a long history of agriculture in Hawai'i and our intent is to continue to support and promote diversified agriculture in Hawai'i. Our plan is to continue cultivation of existing pineapple, coffee and cacao crops and the operation of ancillary agricultural facilities.

Various acreages are currently for sale on a parcel by parcel basis and at varying prices per parcels. We are willing to further discuss the State's interest in purchasing the excess acreage to support the State's mandate of promoting diversified agriculture and preserving conservation lands and habitats.

Identification of parcels, easements, encumbrances, conditions and sale prices per parcel or by bulk sales are specific details that need to be identified in order to move forward with any binding land transaction agreement with the State. We also need to clearly understand the State's expectation and its process of acquiring private lands.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Dan Nellis, Operations Director  
Dole Foods Company Hawai'i  
[dan.nellis@dole.com](mailto:dan.nellis@dole.com)  
808.621.3200

c: Harry Saunders, Castle & Cooke Hawai'i



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**SB3065**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dean J. Okimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: if we are going to grow our sustainability, we need to put farmers on good ag lands at affordable prices,

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 26, 2014 10:10:15 AM

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**SB3065**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Neil Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** [Ronald Weidenbach](#)  
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**Subject:** Testimony in strong support of SB 3065 SD1, WAM, Rm 211, 02/26/14, 9AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:57:03 AM

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Aloha WAM Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Ron Weidenbach, Co-Owner of Hawaii Fish Company, Hawaii's oldest commercial aquaculture farm, located on the North Shore of Oahu. My wife, Estralita, and I strongly support SB 3065 SD1 which would

Appropriate funds to investigate the possibility of exchanging State lands for valuable agricultural lands currently owned by Dole Food Company, and for the costs of executing this land exchange. These Dole lands are among the best remaining Ag lands on Oahu and their preservation as Ag lands is critical to our State's future food security and sustainability. If not preserved soon for agriculture, they may soon be lost to urban development. This is an excellent use of public funds, to help ensure future food production of our State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ron Weidenbach



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**SB3065**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shin Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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