

**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:09 AM  
**To:** TECTestimony  
**Cc:** twidol@alumni.wfu.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3124 on Feb 25, 2014 13:15PM

**SB3124**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for TEC on Feb 25, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Travis Idol	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: While I applaud the Legislature's action to designate a state microbe, I feel the choice of *Vibrio fischeri* does not meet the major criterion of being a unique or distinct Hawaiian microbe to be deserving of this recognition. This microbe was discovered by a German microbiologist and is found widely throughout the world's oceans. A better choice would be *Flavobacterium akiainvivens*, a bacterium that was recently discovered here in Hawaii by a high school student and that was isolated from a native plant as part of a study on a native fruit fly, all the hallmarks of being deserving of recognition.

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**Karen Dang**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 11:04 AM  
**To:** TECTestimony  
**Cc:** strong@waikalua.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3124 on Feb 25, 2014 13:15PM

**SB3124**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for TEC on Feb 25, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Strong	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I'm a middle and high school science teacher at La Pietra School. It is important to encourage our children to take an interest in science, and we can do that by citing examples such as the discovery of a State Microbe by a fellow student. A Bill for a State Microbe should nominate a microbe that was discovered in Hawaii, and ideally by a person born and raised here. The candidate named in SB3124, *Vibrio fischeri*, isn't unique to Hawaii. It was not discovered by anyone from Hawaii, but its discovery by a European microbiologist dates back to the 19th century. I do support the concept of a State Microbe, but it should be endemic to or first found in Hawaii. *Vibrio fischeri* is not a good example for State Microbe. I OPPOSE SB3124."

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