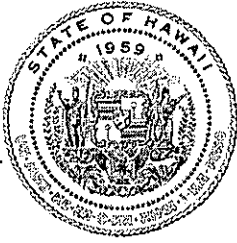


# **SR 56**

URGING THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO APPLY FOR  
DECLARATION OF WHITMORE VILLAGE IN CENTRAL OAHU AS A  
STATE ENTERPRISE ZONE.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**RICHARD C. LIM**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING**

Monday, March 31, 2014  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

in consideration of  
**SR 56**

**URGING THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO APPLY FOR DECLARATION OF  
WHITMORE VILLAGE IN CENTRAL OAHU AS A STATE ENTERPRISE ZONE.**

Chairs Espero and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Baker and Slom, and Members of the Committees.

SR 56 urges the Honolulu City Council to apply for declaration of Whitmore Village in Central Oahu as a state enterprise zone.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports this resolution because it is in alignment with the goals and objectives of DBEDT's Enterprise Zone program to stimulate business and industrial growth in economically disadvantaged areas of the state.

DBEDT defers to the Department of Taxation to determine the revenue impact of this resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.



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March 31, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT  
OPERATIONS AND HOUSING

**TESTIMONY ON SR 56**  
URGING THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO APPLY FOR DECLARATION OF  
WHITMORE VILLAGE IN CENTRAL OAHU AS A STATE ENTERPRISE ZONE.

Room 016  
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Espero, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Baker, Vice Chair Slom, 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 stands in strong support of SR 56**, which seeks to designate Whitmore Village as a state enterprise zone (EZ).

The (EZ) partnership is a joint state-county effort intended to stimulate, via tax and other incentive, certain types of business activity, job preservation, and job creation in areas where they are most appropriate or most needed. The EZ program is one of the few State programs which incentivizes economic development in the most rural and distressed communities where agriculture is often the main business activity. Currently, there are approximately 50 agricultural related businesses enrolled in the EZ program.

The Whitmore Project is a comprehensive plan that will help revitalize our local agricultural industry by bringing farmers and the state together to increase local food production, create jobs, engage in partnerships, and to provide affordable housing. Designating Whitmore Village as an enterprise zone will help to support the Whitmore Project by encouraging business activity which will stimulate economic growth in Whitmore Village.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this SR 56.