

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS**

February 10, 2015
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1177
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairpersons Tsuji and Kawakami and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 1177 That would establish one full-time grant writer position within the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to assist farmers and ranchers in applying for and obtaining grants offered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The HDOA supports this bill provided it does not adversely affect the priorities outlined in the Administration's budget.

This bill that identifies the constraints faced by the department and the smaller farmers and ranch owners in applying for and obtaining grant funding. The constraints identified include the lack of time and technical expertise to seek and apply for grants, and if awarded, the time and organizational support to administer and understand compliance requirements specific to each grant award. A full-time grant writer position, dedicated to overcoming these constraints, could seek, apply, administer and comply with, all required actions with the potential to receive millions of dollars in awards to the HDOA to assist farmers and ranch owners.

Currently, the Grants.gov website lists 27 agriculture opportunities offered by the USDA open to "all eligibilities", including state government agencies. Some grant opportunities could be "block grants" or "targeted states" programs that are awarded directly to the state departments of agriculture, but requires that the HDOA submit a proposal in order to receive the funding. A full-time grant writer would allow the HDOA the capability to apply for the grants to benefit the farmers and ranchers that lack the time and technical expertise to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the USDA.



Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
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February 10, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1177
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,932 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB is in strong support of HB 1177, which appropriates moneys to establish a grant writer position within the DOA.

The decrease in direct Federal appropriations for agriculture has resulted in an increased level of dependence on grants. Many federal programs have turned into competitive grant programs.

Hawaii's farmers and ranchers are finding it difficult to secure the financial support necessary to build capacity. Grant writing for USDA grants usually involves a very complex application process that can be difficult to navigate through. This often deters farmers and ranchers from applying for USDA grants. A well trained and skilled grant writer would be able to assist farmers and ranchers obtain USDA grants by assisting them with applying for and fulfilling the requirements of the grants.

Access to USDA grants can result in increased capacity, new business opportunities, increase employment opportunities and address Hawaii's goals of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Mahalo for your support.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bennette.misalucha808@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bennette Misalucha	Hawaii Crop Improvement Association	Support	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 6:43 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peter.sullenberger@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Sullenberger	Three Roads Farm	Support	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: colemel@kanalanifarm.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colehour Bondera	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Representatives: Please support this important step forward so that there are opportunities within the HDOA to help this important part of the government grow and succeed. If we expect for Hawaii to produce more of its' own food, then more resources must be so directed and right now there are many financial resources which Hawaii can be making good uses of to support agriculture! Support of this Bill will help Hawaii to have a place at the table with funders and now is the best time to do so, so please support funding this position as you would having a key made for a locked door that you know behind it has a significant storage of your own belongings that you cannot otherwise access. Thank you for your support to this one! Yours, Colehour Bondera KANALANI OHANA FARM Honaunau, HI

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 1:12 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauifaith@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Ewbank	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:41 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: olindaorganicfarm@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ihemphi@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: caveguy@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lars Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: teahawaii@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eva Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: 2kalkout@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth A Likotu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:31 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauimartha@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Grant money is greatly needed to help support the Department of Agriculture in HI.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:54 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Staff time and job description needs to be aligned with funding needs. this position would pay for itself in the first 1/2 year or less.

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Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: themomhui@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mercy Ritte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 12:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpshaw10@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Shaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 7:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pfdevries108@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter deVries	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 8:04 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alikamaui@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika Atay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 7:28 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 10:58 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: molokaihula@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoelani Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB 1177 Which appropriates moneys to establish a grant writer position within the DOA

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 11:09 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jahniappleseed@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 3:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rob@surfbeyond.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

LATE

HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Barreca	Counter Culture Food + Ferments	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 3:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: afkauaigr1086@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM



HB1177

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann M. Fontes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. Many local farmers need help to apply for grants. A full time grant writer position within DOA can help remedy this problem/reason why some farmers do not apply for grants that may help them become successful producers. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 8:51 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: makena42@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1177 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*



HB1177

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Turner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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