

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

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LATE

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

February 11, 2016
5:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE BILL NO. 2424
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairperson McKelvey and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2424. This bill would establish a new part in chapter 150A, HRS that would allow for the department to enter into private-public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and for the department to adopt rules to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities. The Department supports this measure provided it does not adversely impact the priorities in the Administration's budget.

The Department has been working with freight forwarders, airlines, produce importers, and others to develop inspection facilities, manifesting systems, database sharing and other avenues to enhance the effectiveness of our biosecurity program. This bill will strengthen our ability to work collaboratively with our partners.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

LATE

**In Strong Support of HB2424
Relating to Bio Security**

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Mark Phillipson

Executive Director

Bennette Misalucha

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

Thursday, 02-11-16 5:00PM in House conference room 325

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Woodson and members of the Committee,

My name is Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA). HCIA is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization promoting agricultural bio tech to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy state economy.

HCIA is in strong support of HB2424.

The unbridled spread of invasive species is one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, environment, and health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. As an association of farmers, we understand the hardships detrimental pests can cause to both the land and local crops.

Hawaii's distinctive ecosystem boasts unique conditions that are ideal for year-around agricultural activity. HCIA supports initiatives meant to secure and maintain this delicate system. Providing the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture the ability to establish public-private partnerships to expand biosecurity facilities will bolster Hawaii's defenses and help secure this initiative.

HCIA's member companies are consistently on the forefront of mitigating pest damage to locally grown crops. Our experience has taught us the importance of creating a culture that allows the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture Pest Control Branch the necessary tools to take up this task statewide.

In closing, HB2424 will not only diversify Hawaii's defense against invasive species. It will demonstrate a commitment to protecting Hawaii's land, farmers, and residents for years to come.

We thank you for this time and hope that you will vote in favor of HB2424.

Bennette Misalucha
Executive Director, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

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LATE



**HAWAII
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LATE TESTIMONY

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February 11, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2424
RELATING BIOSECURITY

Room 325
5:00 PM

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Woodson, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 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 **supports with comment, HB 2424**, providing funds and requiring DOA to establish or participate in private-public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and quarantine inspection process.

During these days of limited resources, public-private partnerships are important opportunities to provide service and opportunities by government. The Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts is a good example of a public-private partnership that has proven its' value over time. It couples volunteers with State and County resources, accomplishing much more than any of the participating entities could accomplish on their own.

Another example is the vehicle registration and safety check process. Here, regulatory requirements are implemented by private entities but the final regulatory action is done by the police or other publicly hired entity. No confidential business information is involved.

However, the suggested private-public partnership crosses into an unknown arena. The Plant Quarantine requirements discussed in this measure not only regulatory in nature but could also involve business information such as the identity of customers and importers. This proposal is not clear whether the private party is a transportation company or a party that is currently an importer and expanding their operations. If the party is a transportation company, no problem should exist as they already manage such business information. However, if the party is an importer, that is providing additional services to other importers, there is a concern whether private business

information giving the provider of services an unfair business advantage will come into play. A discussion and clarification of the kinds of private entities that could enter into this partnership is needed.

(C) Establishing or participating in private-public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and quarantine inspection process with on-port and off-port facilities, including inspection and treatment facilities, transitional facilities, and consolidation and deconsolidation facilities; provided that actual **access to shipping documents is limited to shipping companies and HDOA personnel and** inspections shall be performed only by department employees and not private contractors or their employees.

We respectfully respect your support of this important measure while addressing the concern to ensure that confidential business information is protected. We respectfully **urge the passage of HB 2424 with the suggested amendments.** Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this measure.