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

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

February 4, 2016  
8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2582  
RELATING TO FOOD SAFETY

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2582. This bill proposes to create an agricultural food safety certification program to develop and implement a certification system that will comply with the requirements of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). The department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not adversely impact the priorities in the Administration's budget.

If the intent of the bill is to have the department have capacity to address the FDA's Produce Safety Rule and Preventive Control Rule in the FSMA, it may be too premature, for the FDA has not yet defined how to implement compliance with FSMA.

There are various private companies who offer audit services for good agricultural practices (GAP). Each company has their own different audit schemes and requirements. Currently, under a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the department currently conducts annual GAP audits utilizing USDA's audit matrix. The USDA is working with the FDA to receive recognition of the USDA GAP audits to meet FSMA requirements.

We will continue to assist in educating farmers with the support assistance from the legislature to continue our outreach and education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 9:26 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** warrenmcfb@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2582 on Feb 4, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2582**

Submitted on: 2/2/2016

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

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February 4, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2582  
RELATING TO FOOD SAFETY

Room 312  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, 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 strongly supports HB 2582**, requiring the Department of Agriculture to develop and implement an Agricultural Food Safety Certification Program that concurrently complies with the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act as it applies to farmers and authorizes funds as needed.

HFB appreciates the support by the legislature in our past efforts to help Hawaii's farmers achieve compliance with the FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act. As the actual rule has been rolled out by FDA the immensity of the task is becoming evident. The final details are still not clear as the agency themselves have finished articulating the details of the measure but training sessions have been delayed. However, basic requirements about water treatment and refrigeration are clear. This will mean changes on many of our farms. Cooperative efforts will be important to ensure affordability. The Department will play a key role in not only facilitating training with the University and other partners but also identifying implementation measures needed. The Department and Counties all have ag parks so their responsibility also extends to their roles as managers of agricultural operations.

HFB respectfully requests your support in moving this measure forward to ensure that our farmers are able to meet compliance deadlines and remain competitive in the marketplace.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.