

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 COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

March 25, 2015
11:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

SENATE BILL NO. 1062 SD 2
RELATING TO THE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No.1062 SD 2. This bill moves the statutory authority for the Biosecurity Program, without language changes, from Chapter 150A and places it in Chapter 141. The department supports this bill.

Chapter 150A is titled "Plant and Non-domestic Animal Quarantine and Microorganism Import" and are the authorities for the laws that are administered by the department through the Plant Quarantine Branch. Currently, the language for the Biosecurity Program is in chapter 150A which limits the authorities for this program to the Plant Quarantine Branch. The department has multiple programs in other branches and divisions that address the issue of biosecurity. For example, the Livestock Disease Control Branch, Plant Pest Control Branch, Pesticides Branch, and Market Development Branch. The approach to biosecurity should be a collaborative and integrated approach among all entities within the department whose programs address and impact biosecurity. These proposed changes will place the authorities with the department's general statutes (Chapter 141 titled "Department of Agriculture") giving it department-wide responsibilities and not have it restricted to a single branch within the department.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2015
11:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1062, SENATE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO THE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM**

Senate Bill 1062, Senate Draft 2 proposes to move statutory language describing the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) biosecurity program from Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 150A to a new Part of HRS Chapter 141, broadening the scope of the biosecurity program from being within the Plant Quarantine Branch to becoming a department-wide initiative. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this Administration measure.**

The Department recognizes that biosecurity includes pre-border, border, and post-border actions to both minimize the introduction of invasive species into the State and to control incipient populations. Relocating the statutory mandates of the biosecurity program from HRS Chapter 150A (which generally refers to the Plant Quarantine Branch within the Plant Industry Division of the HDOA) to HRS Chapter 141 (which describes the general duties of the entire HDOA) reflects the broad range of activities associated with the biosecurity program.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

SHAN TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

VOTING MEMBERS

CARTY CHANG
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL
RESOURCES

SCOTT ENRIGHT
HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MARIA GALLO, PhD
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

LEO ASUNCION
OFFICE OF PLANNING, DEPARTMENT OF
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &
TOURISM

DAVID RODRIGUEZ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**Testimony of the
HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

11:30 AM

State Capitol, Room 312

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1062, SD2
RELATING TO THE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM**

Senate Bill 1062, SD2 would remove statutory language describing the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) biosecurity program from Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 150A and instead place it in a new section of HRS 141. **The interagency Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) supports this measure.**

The HISC recognizes that biosecurity includes pre-border, border, and post-border actions to both minimize the introduction of invasive species into the State and to control incipient populations. Relocating the statutory mandates of the biosecurity program from HRS 150A (which generally refers to the Plant Quarantine Branch within the Plant Industry Division of the HDOA) to HRS 141 (which describes the general duties of the entire HDOA) reflects the broad range of activities associated with the biosecurity program.

The HISC appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 1062 SD2 Relating to the Biosecurity Program
House Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 11:30AM, Room 312

For more than 35 years, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i has been working closely with government agencies, local businesses, private landowners, non-profit partners, and interested communities across the state to preserve the lands and waters upon which all life in these islands depends. The Conservancy is a private non-profit conservation organization that has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i, and support 19 coastal communities seeking to co-manage marine resources in partnership with the State of Hawai'i.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 1062 SD2 and its provisions to establish the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture's Biosecurity Program in statute.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive. Indeed, the colonization rate of introduced insects and mites in Hawai'i has been estimated at 500 times the rate of the continental United States.

Evidence from Hawai'i and around the world shows that preventing new pest establishment is exponentially more economical than eradicating a pest or, even worse, controlling it indefinitely once it becomes established. The HDOA has developed a multi-faceted Biosecurity Program in an effort to enhance invasive species prevention at air and sea ports with more inspectors, enhanced inspection systems and technologies, improved inspection facilities, agreements with importers and producers for improved sanitary protocols, and support local growers to produce import substitutes. This bill helps to formalize the HDOA's Biosecurity Program by making it a part of the department's authorizing statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
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e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 25, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 1062, SD2
RELATING TO THE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM

Room 312
11:30 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 supports SB 1062, SD 2, which improves the effectiveness of Hawaii biosecurity program by establishing the program as a function of the whole Department of Agriculture.

Invasive species have become one of the most challenging problems impacting Hawaii. Many invasive species are damaging Hawaii's environment and the state's economy. Agriculture has a vested interest in this matter. Agriculture is one of the major casualties when invasive species are introduced. Every year, numerous new pests are introduced into the State, such as the coqui frog, coffee berry borer, macadamia felted coccid, little fire ant, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle and varoa mite, to name a few. Most recently, the coffee berry borer was found on Oahu demonstrating issues with interisland product movement.

Control measures take time to develop, leaving farmers and ranchers at risk. This is not consistent with the State's goal of increasing self-sufficiency and sustainability.

HDOA's biosecurity program is essential to fully execute a comprehensive strategy to address the increasing amount of invasive species entering the state.

This measure addresses the needs of HDOA to help prevent new invasive species from entering Hawaii and to control and hopefully eradicate invasive species that are already established in Hawaii. HFB is willing to work with the legislature and department to accommodate updates as needed to achieve our goals in biosecurity. **Please support SB 1062, SD 2.**



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Eighth Legislature, 2015
State of Hawaii

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair

Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair

THURSDAY March 25, 2015

11:30 A.M.

Conference Room 414

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

A bill for an act

SB 1062 RELATING TO THE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

We OPPOSE SB1062. We have serious concern about the direction this bill would take us. A few years ago the Biosecurity program, under the previous Plant Quarantine Manager, was working collaboratively with the Legislature, was performing exceptionally well and was acknowledged nationally and internationally. Unfortunately when the Department took out the Manager and with a new Chair, the program has not been kept up to what it should be. Not enough inspectors have been hired, there has been a drop in staff, the current direction of the program has not been made clear, the interception of invasive species has dropped dramatically and important programs have stopped. We are forced to question how the current state of the program suggests that this bill would help to improve our Bio-security program. We believe it would be better for industry and agriculture to instead support HB871.

The creation of biosecurity within the Department of Agriculture would dilute the intent of focusing biosecurity in the areas of prevention and rapid response, and reduction of risk of pest introduction. The Legislature correctly placed the Biosecurity Program in the Plant Quarantine Law because it is based on a quarantine system. For us in agriculture, to compete in a global market, we must speak the same language in trade and commerce. Our goods must be in sync with the quarantine requirements of other states and nations. Biosecurity is the term that the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (194 member countries) has adopted to facilitate trade or movement among countries.

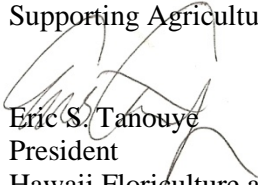


Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

The only way to expand the program would be to create a Biosecurity division with oversight on policies and direction from the industry and stakeholders, allowing the department and industry to work together, for what is best for Agriculture and Hawaii.

We as an Industry **OPPOSE** this bill and ask you to instead support HB871. If you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,



Eric S. Tanouye
President
Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 10:21 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: amybrinker@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM*



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/24/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE

The House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture
March 24, 2015
11:30 a.m., Conference Room 312
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of SB 1062 SD2

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

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports SB 1062**, *Relating to Biosecurity*, which elevates the issue and responsibilities related to all aspects of biosecurity from within various branches to a core function of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA).

CGAPS has long recognized the duality of many agencies' mandates, one that asks an agency to promote and regulate at the same time. For the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, the challenge is to promote local agriculture while regulating the movement of agricultural products to mitigate incoming pests, livestock diseases, the movement of harmful pests and diseases, and damage. The creation of a cohesive biosecurity program that can work with partner agencies and entities to effectively consider, prevent, detect, respond to, and control pests that impact agriculture, natural resources, and public health effectively separates functions of biosecurity from agriculture industry support and promotion (two extremely important functions that should be given no less consideration!).

The major actions identified in this bill are directly on-target, and if implemented, I personally believe that this state would become a national leader in biosecurity, and a model worldwide.

We respectfully ask your support SB 1062 SD2. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 6:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Hawaii Tropical Flowers & Foliage Association Ass.	Oppose	No

Comments: The only way to expand the program would be to create a Biosecurity division with oversight on policies and direction from the industry and stakeholders, allowing the department and industry to work together, for what is best for Agriculture and Hawaii. The bill that needs to be supported is HB 871

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rkuwaye@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/24/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russell Kuwaye	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Tsuji: I oppose SB1062 Relating to Biosecurity. I support HB817 instead of SB1062. You and your committees kind decision would be greatly appreciated. Russell Kuwaye

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March 25, 2015

TESTIMONY

House Committee on Agriculture

SB 1062 RELATING TO THE BIOSECURITY PROGRAM

Conference Room 414 11:30 A.M.

LATE

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Maui County Farm Bureau, representing commercial farm and ranch operations on Maui has **strong concerns** about SB1062, transferring authority of the Biosecurity Program to the Department of Agriculture rather than a branch of the department.

We understand the intent of the measure. The preamble correctly states that the success of the program depends on the collaborative efforts of the entire department rather than just a branch of the department. The current language in 150A assumes that this collaborative effort is implemented. However, the fees collected are from sources with the justification that the purpose of the fees is specifically for the "inspection, quarantine and eradication of pests". While the scope of these categories can be very broad, a safeguard was put into place, section 150A-56 that requires the Department to realistically forecast its' needs for the ensuing six fiscal years for legislative approval. Programs were to be articulated to ensure they met the intent of the Program.

MCFB strongly believes that the contents of 150A-56 is a critical piece to ensure accountability for funds collected. It is also a way to assure those paying into the system that their moneys are spent for the intended purpose. While the program requires the collaborative effort of the Department, the ultimate goal is the protection of Hawaii from Invasive Species. The Department's mission is much broader so there must be a mechanism to ensure that the original intent of these fees is not misplaced.

We strongly request that there be consideration during your deliberations to ensure that the original intent by the Legislature in creating the biosecurity plan is not lost via SB1062. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our input on this important matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 10:31 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wiser54@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamie Nahl	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Comments: The way to expand the program to work best would be to create a Biosecurity division with oversight on policies and direction from the industry and stakeholders. Thereby allowing the department and industry to work together for the protection & support of all Agriculture within Hawaii. The bill that should be supported is HB 871.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:39 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/24/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Oppose it in current form. Original intent of program can be lost. Safeguards have been removed.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 9:58 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ad-venture@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel S. Nakasone	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose SB 1062 because it strays from the original intent of the Bio-security program, which would have taken a holistic approach to improving the international, domestic and inter-island commerce of agricultural products.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 10:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: neo@greenpointnursery.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM*

LATE

SB1062

Submitted on: 3/24/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thong-Teng Neo	Orchid Growers Of Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 6:43 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: chris@greenpointnursery.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM*



SB1062

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Tanouye	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sundance@greenpointnursery.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1062 on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM*

LATE

SB1062

Submitted on: 3/24/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 25, 2015 11:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sundance Vargas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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