

**SB 2377**

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 SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE  
AND TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2016  
2:45 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 229**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2377  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL WATER SUPPLY**

Chairpersons Gabbard and Inouye and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2377. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the department of agriculture for planning and engineering studies and designs for construction of water source development, renewable energy sources for agricultural development and delivery, and a reservoir to service the agricultural lands surrounding Waimea. The Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this measure provided that it does not impact the priorities submitted in the department's executive budget.

The department believes there is considerable potential in this region to expand diversified agriculture. The limiting factor in this case is not land availability, but adequate irrigation water. The existing Waimea Irrigation System has reached its service capacity; however, the department believes there is an opportunity to develop and store more water by integrating affordable, renewable energy with new water sources. New sources will not only allow the expansion of the irrigation district, but provide a significantly more reliable supply of water during times of drought or other natural disasters.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII



JOBIE M. K.  
MASAGATANI

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEES ON WATER, LAND AND AGRICULTURE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY  
IN SUPPORT OF**

**SB 2377 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL WATER SUPPLY**

February 9, 2016

Aloha Chairs Gabbard, Inoyue, and members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) has beneficiaries and land in Lalamilo and Pu'ukapu. An increase in the water supply in these areas and in the greater Waimea District would be extremely beneficial to farmers and residents, including DHHL beneficiaries that live in the region.

DHHL requests that the Committees on Water, Land and Agriculture, and Transportation and Energy, pass SB 2377 out of Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2377 on Feb 9, 2016 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:39:20 PM

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**SB2377**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/TRE on Feb 9, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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February 9, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

TESTIMONY ON SB 2377  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL WATER SUPPLY

Room 229  
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committees:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF 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 interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**HFB supports SB 2377**, which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for planning and engineering studies and designs for construction of water source development, renewable energy sources for agricultural development and delivery, and a reservoir to service the agricultural lands surrounding Waimea.

Water availability is a basic necessity needed by farmers and ranchers to maintain and expand their production, particularly in times of drought. Having a reliable water supply is a key factor when Hawaii's farmers and ranchers are making decisions to start new or to expand existing operations.

Electrical costs are a significant expenditure for Hawaii's farmers and ranchers. Containment of variable costs are critical for long term viability. In order for farmers and ranchers to be competitive and self-sustaining, an environment in which agriculture can expand and succeed is critical to the long term viability of the agricultural sector.

Renewable energy sources that help to reduce energy costs and reliable and affordable water could help increase the agricultural production of our farmers in ranchers in South Kohala. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2377 on Feb 9, 2016 14:45PM\*  
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**SB2377**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/TRE on Feb 9, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Simon Russell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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