

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

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 FINANCE**

March 30, 2016  
2:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 308

**SENATE BILL NO. 2788  
RELATING TO THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS ADVISORY  
BOARD**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2788. The purpose of this measure is to allow listed members of the Molokai irrigation system water users' advisory board to be represented by agents, officers, or employees of their respective organizations. The Department respectfully offers the following comments.

The department respectfully recommends that the language for §167-23, HRS be amended to reflect the original language prior to the 2010 amendment. The statute was amended by inserting a new §167-23(b). The new section set criteria that members had to meet and added a seventh board member. Since the change, the department has found it difficult to recommend new board members. The board currently has two out of seven seats filled.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MARCH 30, 2016

TESTIMONY ON SB 2788  
RELATING TO THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS ADVISORY BOARD

**STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2788**

---

Aloha Honorable Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Respected Committee Members:

On behalf of Hikiola Cooperative, Inc. we thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize agents, officers, or employees of Molokai Irrigation System users to be Molokai Irrigation System Users Advisory Board members; and
- (2) Remove the requirement that Molokai Irrigation System Users Advisory Board members be active general excise tax licensees.

The Molokai Irrigation System (MIS) is the *only agricultural water source on Molokai*. This single ag water source demonstrates the lifeline that sustains agriculture on Molokai.

As stated in Section 167-23 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Molokai Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board (MISUAB) was created to advise the Department of Agriculture on matters of concern to users of the irrigation system, provide support to the irrigation facilities, participate in long-range planning of the irrigation system, and act as a liaison between the users of the system and the Department of Agriculture.

Since 2010 the MIS Users Advisory Board has continued to hold "informational meetings only" due to the lack of quorum, as the above Board member requirements that we are seeking to change, have prevented the Advisory Board from attracting qualified members to serve. *Presently only 2 out of the 7 positions are filled.*

It is necessary that the MIS Users Advisory Board be able to establish quorum and hold official meetings frequently. Passage of this measure will facilitate the Advisory Board in conducting its duties.

**As officers of the organization that represents 1 of the 7 Advisory Board seats, we stand in unison and in strong support for SB 2788.**

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

---

Steven Arce, Hikiola Co-op Board Chair

---

Andrew Arce, Hikiola Co-op Board Vice Chair

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MARCH 30, 2016

TESTIMONY ON SB 2788  
RELATING TO THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS ADVISORY BOARD

**STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2788**

---

Aloha Honorable Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Respected Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

I submit this written testimony on behalf of the Molokai Farm Bureau membership, as President. The Molokai Farm Bureau, as an organization, has the responsibility of nominating a delegate to serve on the Molokai Irrigation System User's Advisory Board, 1 of the 7 Board seats. Our position is currently unfilled, for lack of ability to meet the unnecessary and unfair restrictions in place.

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize agents, officers, or employees of Molokai Irrigation System users to be Molokai Irrigation System Users Advisory Board members; and
- (2) Remove the requirement that Molokai Irrigation System Users Advisory Board members be active general excise tax licensees.

The Molokai Irrigation System (MIS) is the *only agricultural water source on Molokai*. This single ag water source demonstrates the lifeline that sustains agriculture on Molokai.

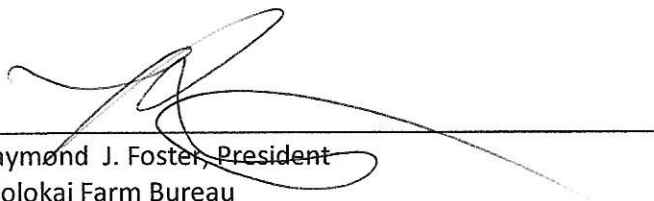
As stated in Section 167-23 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Molokai Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board (MISUAB) was created to advise the Department of Agriculture on matters of concern to users of the irrigation system, provide support to the irrigation facilities, participate in long-range planning of the irrigation system, and act as a liaison between the users of the system and the Department of Agriculture.

Since 2010 the MIS Users Advisory Board has continued to hold "informational meetings only" due to the lack of quorum, The Board member requirements established at that time have prevented the Advisory Board from attracting qualified members to serve. The organizations who are responsible MIS customers and/or designated to hold Board seats cannot appoint. *Presently only 2 out of the 7 positions are filled!*

It is necessary that the MIS Users Advisory Board be able to establish quorum and hold official meetings frequently. Passage of this measure will facilitate the Advisory Board in conducting its duties.

The Molokai Farm Bureau stands in **strong support for SB 2788**.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,



---

Raymond J. Foster, President  
Molokai Farm Bureau



Testimony for  
Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 2:00 p.m. Room 308

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

**SB2788 Relating to the Molokai Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board**

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

This testimony is in SUPPORT of SB2788 to provide allow the Molokai irrigation system users who are members of the Advisory Board to designate their agents, officers, or employees participate on the Board. It also removes the requirement for having a GET license.

I am Lynn McCrory, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for Pulama Lanai. I am also a commission member of the Molokai – Lanai Soil and Water Conservation District, representing the island of Lānaʻi. Pulama Lanai is the entity that was set up by Larry Ellison to work with the community and government as we move the island of Lanai toward sustainability.

This change to ACT 154, Section 167-23 will by providing an opportunity allow the advisory board to include an agent, or other knowledgeable person attend the meetings should the member not be able to attend. It will allow alternative attendees who have the most information on a specific subject attend the relevant meetings.

We humbly ask that you support SB2788. Mahalo!

Me ke aloha pumehana  
With warm aloha,

Lynn P. McCrory  
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2016 2:34 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** molokailori@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2788 on Mar 30, 2016 14:00PM\*

**SB2788**

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lori Buchanan	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2016 8:29 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaliarce@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2788 on Mar 30, 2016 14:00PM

**SB2788**

Submitted on: 3/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kali Arce	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I Support this Bill because as the only member on the MIS Water Users Advisory Board, I have not been able to meet with a quorum since I became a Board member on April 4, 2014. There are many issues that need to be discussed and its vital that Board seats are filled.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MARCH 30, 2016

TESTIMONY ON SB 2788  
RELATING TO THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS ADVISORY BOARD

**LATE**

**STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2788**

Aloha Honorable Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Respected Committee Members:

As an officer of the Molokai Farm Bureau, and Molokai community member, I submit my personal testimony in support of SB 2788. We thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize agents, officers, or employees of Molokai Irrigation System users to be Molokai Irrigation System Users Advisory Board members; and
- (2) Remove the requirement that Molokai Irrigation System Users Advisory Board members be active general excise tax licensees.

The Molokai Irrigation System (MIS) is the *only agricultural water source on Molokai*. This single ag water source demonstrates the lifeline that sustains agriculture on Molokai.

As stated in Section 167-23 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Molokai Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board (MISUAB) was created to advise the Department of Agriculture on matters of concern to users of the irrigation system, provide support to the irrigation facilities, participate in long-range planning of the irrigation system, and act as a liaison between the users of the system and the Department of Agriculture.

Since 2010 the MIS Users Advisory Board has continued to hold "informational meetings only" due to the lack of quorum, as the above Board member requirements that we are seeking to change, have prevented the Advisory Board from attracting qualified members to serve. *Presently only 2 out of the 7 positions are filled.*

It is necessary that the MIS Users Advisory Board be able to establish quorum and hold official meetings frequently. Passage of this measure will facilitate the Advisory Board in conducting its duties.

***The Molokai Farm Bureau represents 1 of the 7 Advisory Board seats, I stand in strong support for SB 2788.***

Mahalo for your time and consideration,



Joan F. Lasua, Treasurer