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April 17, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

TESTIMONY ON GM 796
RELATING TO NOMINATION OF PAUL MEYER TO THE STATE COMMISSION ON WATER
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Room 224
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, 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 interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB strongly supports GM796, seeking the confirmation of Mr. Paul Meyer to the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

Mr. Meyer comes with a wide range of experiences that will add value to the Commission. His engineering background, coupled with financial, agriculture, land management, and energy development, are critical subjects that impact the decisions made by the Commission.

Most recently Mr. Meyer was serving as the Deputy Director to the Maui Department of Water Supply. The Department is unique in managing the water system most dependent on surface water flows. As such he will bring insight into the responsibilities and realities to ensure that our precious resource water, is protected and used for the benefit of the people of Hawaii while respecting cultural and environmental needs. The Department also manages agricultural systems associated with the Kula Agricultural Park. He understands the needs of agriculture that is critical in a day when the State seeks to increase its' level of agricultural self sufficiency and sustainability.

We respectfully request your strong support towards the confirmation of Mr. Paul Meyer to the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.