DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 1325, HOUSE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

House Bill 1325, House Draft 1 proposes to clarify the requirement for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities and appropriate funds for import replacement, development of diagnostics, and other activities. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this initiative, as long as it does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.

The Department recognizes that the HDOA Plant Quarantine Branch's Biosecurity Program is a critical component of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP). The Department notes that this measure supports several recommended action items from the HIBP.

The proposed language for Subsection 150A-53(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities addresses HIBP action #47 (BorPol1.2), which recommends that HDOA write a set of minimum standards, specifications, and operational protocols that would constitute HDOA's certification program for operating transitional facilities for the inspection of imported goods.

The proposed appropriation in SECTION 4 to support import replacement of high risk crops addresses HIBP action #34 (PreTifs2.4) to fund import substitution programs to support local growers and reduce reliance on imported goods. The other appropriations in this section, regarding development of quarantine treatments, diagnostics, and education activities, are also broadly supported by the HIBP.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

## SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E. 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
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

DAVID Y. IGE Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

## State of Hawaii **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

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

#### BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

MARCH 28, 2017 9:30 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 211

HOUSE BILL NO. 1325 HD1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1325 HD1, which requires the Department to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for an ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities. This bill also provides funding to the Department for its biosecurity program. The Department supports additional funds to address biosecurity provided it does not impact the department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget and offers comments.

This bill recognizes that preventing the entry of invasive pest species in tandem with post-entry identification and control and/or eradication of those pests is key to a healthy natural environment. It is important to note that through the Plant Quarantine Branch in the Department, a pilot project has been underway with private freight forwarder companies to provide critical inspection of incoming agricultural commodities. The Department has spent ample time and energy in developing the scope of such a project with developed protocols to address biosecurity. Should this program prove successful it may be in the best interest of the State to expand such a program to encompass each port of entry.



The bill provides a legislative appropriation to support the Department's biosecurity program. With this funding, the Department will be able to continue its important biosecurity efforts and implement the tasks identified in the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





#### HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325 HONOLULU. HAWAII 96813

#### VOTING MEMBERS

SUZANNE CASE
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL
RESOURCES

SCOTT ENRIGHT

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KEITH KAWAOKA D.Env. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MARIA GALLO, Ph.D. UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

**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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 State Capitol, Conference Room 211

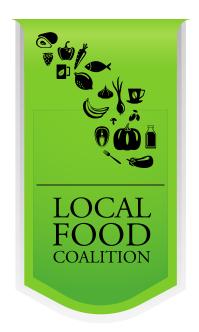
## HOUSE BILL 1325 HOUSE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

House Bill 1325, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities and appropriate funds for import replacement, development of diagnostics, and other activities. **The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) supports this measure.** 

The HDOA Plant Quarantine Branch's Biosecurity Program is a critical component of the broader Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP). The proposed language for Subsection 150A-53(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities addresses HIBP action item BorPol1.2, which recommends that HDOA write a set of minimum standards, specifications, and operational protocols that would constitute HDOA's certification program for operating transitional facilities for the inspection of imported goods.

The proposed appropriation in SECTION 3 to support import replacement of high risk crops addresses HIBP action item PreTifs2.4 to fund import substitution programs to support local growers and reduce reliance on imported goods. The other appropriations in this section, regarding development of quarantine treatments, diagnostics, and education activities, are also broadly supported by the HIBP. Passage of this measure would facilitate timely implementation of the Biosecurity Plan. The HISC supports this measure provided that its passage does not impact other requests relating to invasive species in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



4 Ag Hawai'i

Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools

Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council

Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation

Hawai'i Farmers' Union United

Hawai'i Food Industry Association

Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden Network

Ulupono Initiative

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS Tuesday, March 28, 2017 – 9:30 AM - Room 211

RE: HB 1325 HD1 - Relating to Biosecurity - In Support

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

**The Local Food Coalition supports HB 1325 HD1,** which requires the Department of Agriculture ("DOA") to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for and ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

The implementation of the DOA's biosecurity program is critical to controlling invasive species threats and to ensure the public's health and welfare. HB 1325 HD1 will provide needed appropriations and also allows for funding from other sources to achieve the objectives of the biosecurity program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We ask for your favorable consideration of this measure.

Lori Lum 808-544-8343 llum@wik.com





Ryan Kalei, Clift & Ash

"Continuing a lifetime of community contribution."

#### TESTIMONY OF FRIENDS OF CLIFT TSUJI

#### BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

March 28, 2017

#### H.B. 1325 HD 1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chair Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, and committee members.

My name is Dr. Jack Fujii and I am testifying on behalf of the Friends of Clift Tsuji. We are in strong support of H.B. 1325 HD1. We are proud to have known and supported a man such as Clift. He gave so much to his community and the State.

Clift tackled major agriculture issues during his Legislative term. Starting as a freshman lawmaker in 2004, he quickly gained fame as the "coqui guy" throughout the Capitol, where his persistence led to \$2 million in research and control dollars for coqui.

He fought for the future of our livestock and dairy industries, and our ability to utilize genetic engineering research for flowers, fruits, and vegetable crops. . He worked with Industry, UH and the Department, to resolve our export problems by seeking funding support for suppressing pests in production areas. He continued to seek funds to build





Ryan Kalei, Clift & Ash

"Continuing a lifetime of community contribution."

inspection facilities statewide. The inspection facilities, once built, would facilitate clearance for inbound and outbound shipments by combining federal and state agencies and having treatments readily accessible to meet quarantine requirements for imports and exports.

Clift did not shy away from difficult issues. He knew the State of Hawaii was the underdog when it came down to federal policies and he voiced his opinion to the Secretary of Agriculture on the importation of Taiwan oncidiums to protect our local orchid growers, to the Secretary of Transportation on federal policies that adversely affected Hawaii, and to the Assistant Secretary of Transportation on the use of cargo fees. Whether they responded or not, he continued to fight for the betterment of Hawaii. To the end, he thought about us and how to protect us. We, now, become his voice in supporting his Biosecurity legislation H.B. 1325 HD1 "Clift Tsuji Act".

Thank you for your consideration and allowing us to testify.



## Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Ninth Legislature, 2017 State of Hawaii

### COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

> Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:30 AM Conference Room 211 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

## A bill for an act **HB1325 HD1** RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

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.

The Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association (HFNA) strongly **SUPPORTS** House **Bill 1325** HD1.

A comprehensive implementation of Hawaii's Biosecurity program is an action that is sorely needed and is essential for our industry. HFNA believes that building upon the current, though stalled, Biosecurity System, would be the most effective, costefficient and logical approach.

We strongly support this measure because it reaffirms to the Department of Agriculture that the Biosecurity program is vital and is needed to focus on what it was intended to do, which was to establish a **comprehensive prevention system** that would help to stop the entry of invasive species while allowing our agricultural industries to increase levels of self-sufficiency and sustainability.

We also hope to be able to provide input as an industry. As in the past, when we met regularly to discuss issues and worked together on initiatives.

This is an important and essential program, which has been stalled for too long.

We thank you for your consideration of HB1325 HD1 called "Clift Tsuji Act" If you have any questions at this time, we would be happy to discuss them and can be



# Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

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



CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

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WE HUMBLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT IN PASSING THIS MEASURE IN HIS HONOR.

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CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

NAME	SIGNATURE	CITY	ISLAND
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Sharon Wong	sharing Does	Hila, H	I.
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CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

NAME	SIGNATURE	CITY	ISLAND
Wesley K. Wek	inot Worky K. Wdineto	#170	Hawaii
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Jaclyn Ikeda	Vignar	Holo	Hawaii
ALLERY MIYADI	und / bushus	Arlo	H
Donna Tak		-Hilo	#1
BOO MARTINA	Mino.	HILD	HI
Sam Horivel	i Wan Herwoli	Hilo	41
Leslie Oln	lu6	Hrio	14
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CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

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Kaylyn Imanura	Karlyn Onn	thy	#1,
Menton Eas	- Marta Zan	thro	41
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CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

WE HUMBLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT IN PASSING THIS MEASURE IN HIS HONOR.

NAME **SIGNATURE** CITY ISLAND STELLA NOTIE Iwasaki Ada



CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

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SundanceVa	argas /	mt View	Hawani'
0	oriano Sparlie & Comin	Kinan	Hawa!
Candy Peral	Candy Ferry	Volcano	Hawaii
Julia Tumon	Lotita Lelian Famonye	Keaau	Hawwi
Remi Wa	ida Renni Water	Keagu	析
Uon Tan	DIAGE 1944	Keaau	HI
Ohris To	morne Chis Imme	Honolula	HI
Julie Tom	much	Hilo,	H
Mark Tanol	140 Manlayes	Keaau	HI
Davalynn So	ouza Twel-s	Mt. View	H;



CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

NAME :	SIGNATURE / EMAIL	CITY	ISLAND
Jaime A. Duyau	gaine A. Dinyao	Keaau	Hawaii
Juliana N. Duyas	Juliana N. Dryow	Keaan.	Hawaii
Henry Dayro	Henry Duyas	Keaan	Hawari
Minerva Duyao	mineros Ougas	Keaau	Hawaii
Elvie Miguel	Eline de Mignel	Klean	Humi
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CLIFT WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES THROUGH BIOSECURITY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS A MEANS TO ADDRESS BOTH.

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Faith N. Oshira	Jain A Gebruit	> Hilo	Haváj
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Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals and serve as a model for integrated green growth

#### **Board of Directors**

**Deanna Spooner**Pacific Island Climate
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*Mark Fox* The Nature Conservancy

Mike Hamnett
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**Piia Aarma**Pineapple Tweed Public
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Development Board

Scott Enright
Department of Agriculture

Scott Seu Hawaiian Electric Company

*Ulalia Woodside*The Nature Conservancy

William J. Aila Jr.
Department of Hawaiian
Homelands

## Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth In Support of HB1325 HD1 Relating to Biosecurity Senate Committee on Ways and Means

28 March 2017, 9:30 am, Room 211

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports HB1325 HD1 to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that enable the safety of agricultural and food commodities. These standards, along with appropriations of funds for biocontrol facilities and import replacements, are crucial to implementing the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan.

Invasive species are a cross cutting issue that threaten the health of Hawaiʻi's economy, ecosystems, agricultural production and people. The recent spread of the Little Fire Ant, outbreak of dengue fever on Hawaiʻi Island and Rapid 'Ohia Death are a couple examples of the severe consequences that invasive species can have. Continued state leadership and funding are essential for coordinated action on invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs.

Hawai'i Green Growth partners agreed that biosecurity is an important priority to support implementation on Hawaii's *Aloha+ Challenge* 2030 sustainability goals. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a joint leadership commitment launched by the State Legislature (SCR69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners. This statewide framework outlines six ambitious 2030 sustainability goals in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resource management, solid waste, smart sustainable communities, and green education and workforce. The Aloha+ Challenge has been recognized nationally and internationally as model that can be scaled to support the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

With leadership and support from the State Legislature, Hawai'i hosted the first U.S. held IUCN World Conservation Congress with over 10,000 global partners from 190 countries. At the Congress, the state launced Hawaii's first Statewide Biosecurity Strategy; **HB1325 HD1** is an opportunity to continue important local action on biosecurity, sustainable development and resiliency.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports **HB1325 HD1** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.



March 28, 2017

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony in Support of HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (Requires the Department of Agriculture to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for and ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities. Makes appropriations for the biosecurity program, including projects for import replacements of high risk crops.)

WAM Hrg: Tuesday, March 28, 2016, 9:30 a.m., in Conference Room 211

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, agricultural operations, renewable energy and housing for Hawaii residents of all income levels, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of HB 1325, HD1.** 

**HB 1325, HD1.** This measure will require the Department of Agriculture (DOA) establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for and ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities; and makes appropriations for the biosecurity program, including projects for import replacements of high risk crops.

**LURF's Position.** The unchecked spread of invasive species is one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy and natural environment, as well as to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. Invasive pests can cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forests, the spread of disease, and the quarantine of exported agricultural crops.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means March 28, 2017 Page 2

Island ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to the destructive power of invasive pests. Using Guam as an example, the introduction of just one new pest like the brown tree snake could change the ecological character of the Hawaiian Islands forever.

LURF understands that despite the State's ongoing efforts to detect and eradicate invasive species, Hawaii's fragile island ecosystem is constantly at risk from insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other invasive pests. Pests such as the coconut rhinoceros beetle, little fire ant, coffee berry borer, coqui frog, and other introduced invasive species are disrupting the delicate balance of island ecosystems, crowding out native species, and reducing the biodiversity of Hawaii.

The DOA has created a biosecurity program to fight invasive species on several fronts by: (1) Administering pre-entry measures to minimize the risk of invasive pests entering the State; 2) Conducting port-of-entry inspections to detect and quarantine or destroy pests upon arrival; and (3) Administering post-entry measures to mitigate the establishment of pests in the State.

The DOA must be provided with the funding and tools to fully execute its comprehensive strategy to prevent invasive species threats from entering into and to control its spreading throughout the State. Building local capacity to stop the entry of high-risk products would enhance our ability to mitigate and manage invasive species, which is vitally important not only to protect our fragile environment, but also to grow our local agricultural industries and to increase levels of food self-sufficiency and sustainability.

LURF understands, however, that the lack of adequate resources, has seriously undermined the functionality of DOA's plant quarantine branch and has resulted in the compromise of the effectiveness and efficiency of the quarantine and biosecurity programs.

The purpose of this Act is to: (1) reaffirm that the implementation of the DOA's biosecurity program is vital to the State;(2) require the DOA to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities; and (3) appropriate moneys to enable the DOA to complete the implementation of the biosecurity program to include import replacement and pest management programs.

For the above reasons, LURF <u>supports</u> **HB 1325**, **HD1** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759 Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921 e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 28, 2017

# HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

# **TESTIMONY ON HB 1325, HD1**RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Room 211 9:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, 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.

Hawaii Farm Bureau **strongly supports HB 1325**, **HD1**, which requires planning and construction parameters for biosecurity facilities and funding high risk import replacement crop development and pest management programs.

Within the comprehensive bill, there is reference to facilities and import replacement projects. However, it is two among many action steps that need to be taken. Secure facilities are critical for efficient functioning of inspection procedures. The Maui facility is a good example of what can happen if the correct facilities are put into place. We need them at all ports.

Import replacement is a huge opportunity for our farmers. In a global market place new products give our local farmers an edge. In turn, replacing high risk imports will mean less risk for invasive species introduction. The high rate of new pests into the islands is a challenge to not only agriculture but the environment.

HFB respectfully requests your strong support of HB 1325, HD1, to focus funding of biosecurity facilities and high risk import replacement and pest management projects.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment on this important subject.

### HCIA 2016 - 2018 Board of Directors

### TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# President

Alan Takemoto

# Vice-President

Joshua Uyehara

# **Secretary**

Dawn Bicoy

#### Treasurer

Laurie Yoshida

# **Directors-at-Large**

Adolf Helm Richard McCormack Dan Clegg

# **President Emeritus**

Kirby Kester

# **Executive Director**

Bennette Misalucha

# **OUR MISSION**HCIA is a Hawaii-

based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education. collaboration and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices and build a healthy economy.

# In Support of HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Requires the DOA to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for and ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities.

# SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

March 28, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Conference Room 211

Chair Tokuda and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy economy.

HCIA **supports HB 1325, HD1**, which requires the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for and ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities and makes appropriations for the biosecurity program, including projects for import replacements of high risk crops.

Preventing the entry of invasive pest species along with post-entry identification and control of those pests is key to protecting Hawaii's natural environment. Secure facilities are critical for the efficient functioning of these inspection practices. Additionally, import replacement both safeguards our State against invasive species and provides additional economic opportunity for local farmers.

HCIA respectfully requests your support of HD 1325, HD1. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Bennette Misalucha Executive Director From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:42 PM

To: WAM Testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu

**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1325 on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM\*

## **HB1325**

Submitted on: 3/24/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

# Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 2:05 PM

To: WAM Testimony

Cc: launahele@yahoo.com

**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1325 on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM\*

**HB1325** 

Submitted on: 3/25/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

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

# Comments:

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From: Pauline Brault
To: WAM Testimony

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:22:48 AM

From: orchidlady1@hawaiiantel.net <Pauline Brault>

Message:

### COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Pauline Brault

From: <u>Dr. Donna R Ching</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 6:10:22 PM

**From:** donnarching@gmail.com <Dr. Donna R Ching>

# Message:

For 25 years, I was the coordinator of the Agricultural Leadership Program sponsored by CTAHR and ALFH. During that time, invasive species was one of the most pressing issues impacting agriculture. Of the eleven classes I coordinated, many felt it was the most important issue that needed to be addressed at the state and federal levels. Please pass this important legislation to protect Hawaii's agriculture and its environment.

# **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Dr. Donna R Ching

Former Extension Specialist for CTAHR

From: <u>Nancy Kanna</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 10:18:38 AM

**From:** the.kannas@gmail.com <Nancy Kanna>

Message:

### COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Nancy Kanna

Community Member

Hanapepe

НІ

From: <u>Eric Tanouye</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:44:00 AM

**From:** eric@greenpointnursery.com <Eric Tanouye >

Message:

Strong support of Rep Clift Tsuji Act HB 1325 HD1 Bio Security Bill !!!

### **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Eric Tanouye

From: <u>Douglas Vincent</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:19:23 AM

From: douglaslvincent@gmail.com <Douglas Vincent>

# Message:

Please support this bill. It improves our farmer's ability to meet and prevent invasive species. It's an honor to have the late Clift Tsuji memorialized in this bill that bares its name.

### **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Douglas Vincent

From: Albert Nakaji
To: WAM Testimony

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:26:31 AM

From: waltz@hawaiiantel.net <Albert Nakaji>

Message:

### COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Albert Nakaji

Nursery owner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 7:24 AM

To: WAM Testimony

**Cc:** kaiwiki.1970@gmail.com

**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1325 on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM\*

**HB1325** 

Submitted on: 3/27/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Randy Cabral	Individual	Support	No

# Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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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## TESTIMONY OF RYAN KALEI TSUJI

### BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE

# ON WAYS AND MEANS

# March 28, 2017

#### H.B. 1325 HD1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Committee:

My name is Ryan Kalei Tsuji and I am the son of the late Representative Clifton Tsuji. I am here today to testify in support of H.B. 1325 HD1.

First, Ash and I are so grateful to the Members of the House for officially acknowledging my dad by naming this bill in his honor; and to the Members of the Senate for hearing this bill today.

From the beginning of my dad's legislative career until the end, he worked tirelessly for local agriculture and the issues that plagued the industry. Drought mitigation, invasive species, and biosecurity were just some of the areas that became a priority for him.

In 2008, my dad, along with Chair Tokuda, was instrumental in establishing the Hawaii's Biosecurity Program into law, which is Hawaii Department of Agriculture's multi-level, collaborative program that prevents the introduction and establishment of new invasive species; detects and controls established pests, and promotes the growth of agriculture

Also in 2008, my dad introduced and was able to pass into Law, the cargo fee that established the Pest Inspection, Quarantine, and Eradication fund. This has provided a more stable funding source for the Department.

My dad worked tirelessly preserving agriculture's presence in the budget wars. He was instrumental in reinstating agricultural inspectors during and after the reduction-in-force in 2009, thus preventing the closure of neighbor island ports and continuing our ability to import and export goods.

In 2011, my dad testified before Senator Akaka's Senate Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia. He urged the Subcommittee to finalize, implement, and fund the "Pathway Analysis of Invasive Species Introduction into the State of Hawaii." This pathway analysis became part of the Regional Biosecurity Plan for Micronesia and Hawaii.

But dearest to his heart, and to the end, my dad wanted to ensure the protection of Hawaii through Hawaii's Biosecurity Program. This measure before you is his Biosecurity bill from last year that he had planned to reintroduce.

My dad shared his concerns with me about the new Interagency Biosecurity Plan and the resulting measures that will be heard this session. He had received numerous emails and had discussions with members of the agricultural industry that their comments were ignored and not included in the final plan. But the most concerning issue for him was that the new plan had marginalized agriculture. My dad was not against expanding the scope of Biosecurity, but he strongly felt it should not be at the

expense of agriculture. He thought that through this measure, HB 1325, Biosecurity could be strengthened and move forward until those issues were resolved.

My dad was a man who loved his job and loved being able to simply help people. Our hope is that we can continue his passion and commitment to making a difference in the community even after his passing. He was a man that led with compassion, he lead with honor, and most of all he lead with his heart.

Ash and I and the rest of the Tsuji ohana greatly appreciate your support in helping to perpetuate the legacy my father left behind and specifically his work in the field of local agriculture and biosecurity. Thank you for your consideration.

From: <u>Susan Miyasaka</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:40:22 PM

From: sc\_miyasaka@yahoo.com <Susan Miyasaka>

# Message:

The late Representative Clift Tsuji was a true supporter of agriculture in Hawaii. Invasive species (including pests and diseases) are a major problem that farmers must deal with in order to survive and thrive.

### COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 9:30 Am Conference Room 211

SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1

Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

Re: HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity (SUPPORT)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Honorable Members of Committee on Ways and Means:

Support HB 1325, HD1 it is important for Hawaii ag producers and our communities to protect them from invasive species and diseases. Let's Pass the Biosecurity Bill in Honor of

the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Susan Miyasaka

Agronomist

Hilo

НІ

From: <u>Mario Gaggero</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject:Support HB 1325 - Relating to BiosecurityDate:Monday, March 27, 2017 6:59:29 AM

From: tanegg@gmail.com <Mario Gaggero >

Message:

# COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 9:30 Am Conference Room 211

SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1

Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mario Gaggero

Manager

Kihei

HI

From: Renee Kester
To: WAM Testimony

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:26:10 AM

From: rkester1@gmail.com <Renee Kester>

Message:

# COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 9:30 Am Conference Room 211

SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1

Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Renee Kester

Kaunakakai

HI

From: <u>Stephanie Iona</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity Date: Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:03:12 PM

From: stephanieniona@icloud.com <Stephanie Iona>

Message:

appreciate your kind consideration ...

#### COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017

9:30 Am Conference Room 211

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1

Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Stephanie Iona

From: <u>Michael Rogers</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Support HB 1325 - Relating to Biosecurity

Date: Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:18:02 PM

From: mikebrogers3@gmail.com < Michael Rogers>

# Message:

CTAHR academics and State DOA agree that the most effective and inexpensive place to combat invasive species that disrupt our ecosystems and destroy agricultural businesses is at the ports. The state spends millions every year to combat invasive species and for the damages they cause. Not only pests, but dieseases as well. Thank you very much for your time. Thank you for working hard for the people you represent. Thank you for your service. Everyone in your office. Mahalo.

### **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

# SUPPORT for HB 1325, HD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Senator Jil Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the SenateCommittee on Ways and Means,

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the late Rep. Clift Tsuji, a true advocate for agriculture and champion for Biosecurity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Michael Rogers