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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1475 on Mar 17, 2017 14:15PM\*

**HB1475**

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for AEN/WTL on Mar 17, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Barry	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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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** dylanarm@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1475 on Mar 17, 2017 14:15PM\*

**LATE**

**HB1475**

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for AEN/WTL on Mar 17, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**LATE**

## KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land

Time: 2:15 p.m.

Date: March 17, 2017

Where: Conference Room 224

### TESTIMONY

By Kā'eo Duarte

Kamehameha Schools

**RE: HB 1475 HD2 Relating to Agricultural Lands.**

Aloha mai kākou! My name is Kā'eo Duarte and I serve as the Vice President of Community Engagement and Resources of Kamehameha Schools.

This measure allows for farmers' markets and food hubs as "agricultural-based commercial operations" on State Agricultural District Lands. We commend the legislature on taking this step toward increasing opportunities for our farmers and ranchers which can lead to a stronger agricultural industry in Hawaii. We are writing to provide comments on HB 1475 HD2, relating to agricultural lands.

We recommend a revision to paragraph Section 2(d)(15)(E). As it stands, there is an inconsistency in Section 2(d)(15). In A, B, C, and D, the commercial operations language specifically reads, "value-added products containing at least fifty per cent Hawaii grown content," while the phrase is omitted in E. There appears to be no reason to limit those farmers and ranchers who are operating food hubs from having the same opportunities as those operating farmers' markets, roadside stands, or the like. Therefore, we recommend that paragraph 2(d)(15)(E), the definition for food hubs, include consistent language, allowing for "value-added products containing at least fifty per cent Hawaii grown content."

We further recommend deletion of "headquartered and" from Section 2(d)(15). A successful and sustainable farming and agriculture industry for Hawai'i must consist of growing, processing, distribution and consumption components. Proposed revisions to Section 2(d)(15) will facilitate commercial-operations necessary for Hawai'i grown products to reach all levels of consumption. Hawai'i should encourage entry into that segment by the widest range of businesses from within our local community and externally by national and global operators with expertise and capital to do so. Hawai'i's agriculture opportunities are unique and the allowance of these new agricultural opportunities would enable Hawai'i to share its vast, yet unexplored potential in the world agriculture market. Hawai'i agriculture will learn from national and global operators and benefit from their positioning of Hawai'i grown products in those markets at the same time strengthening our statewide ability to meet as much of our Hawai'i food needs as possible. Therefore, we recommend deleting "headquartered and" from the language of Section 2(d)(15), as this would allow for new agriculture opportunities to enter into Hawai'i's agriculture industry.

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Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a charitable educational trust whose mission is to fulfill Ke Ali‘i Bernice Pauahi Bishop’s desire to create educational opportunities in perpetuity to improve the capability and well-being of people of Hawaiian ancestry. Kamehameha Schools believes that education will advance social justice, self-determination and ultimate well-being for Native Hawaiians. Through education we seek to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.