

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 AGRICULTURE

**FEBRUARY 10, 2017
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 774 HD 1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 774 HD 1. This measure requires the Board of Agriculture (BOA), when negotiating and executing leases for agricultural and non-agricultural park lands, to establish a preference for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants. The department recognizes the intent of this measure and respectfully requests that this measure be deferred until next session for the following reasons.

The department recognizes that it is desirous to produce food to be consumed locally to the greatest extent possible. We respectfully caution that not all of the department's lands are suitable for food production. For example, our Keahole Ag Park is a very successful ag park; however, due to challenging soil conditions, has a high production of potted plants. We believe that mandating a food production preference may be an inefficient use of natural resources in some cases. The BOA currently maintains the authority to establish other terms and conditions it deems necessary on leases and ask that this flexibility be retained.



We also would like to thank the legislature for recognizing that the implementation of this preference would have a negative impact on the finances of the department's land programs. To this end, we have recently undertaken an effort to determine what the potential impact to the land programs would be. Unfortunately, we do not expect it to be ready by the end of this legislative session. We therefore respectfully request that this measure be deferred until next year. Deferral will also allow the department to comprehensively review the affected statutes and make offer recommended changes that would encourage food production while still providing necessary flexibility where appropriate. We would be pleased to offer these recommendations for next year's session.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 774, H.D. 1, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

DATE: Friday, February 10, 2017

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 312

TESTIFIER(S): Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or
Andrew Goff, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Creagan and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following technical comments on this bill. The purpose of this bill is to direct the Board of Agriculture, when negotiating and executing leases for agricultural and non-agricultural park lands, to establish a preference for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants.

The bill amends several sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to create and fund a preference for “farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants.” It is recommended that the bill be amended for clarity as follows:

Page 2, lines 20-21: “(5) Is a farmer who produces food to be consumed within the State, or a farmer who produces Hawaiian plants as defined by section 103D-408(e).”

Page 3, lines 19-20: “(4) For preferences for farmers who produce food to be consumed within the State, or farmers who produce Hawaiian plants as defined by section 103D-408(e).”

Page 4, lines 13-14: “(2) For preferences for farmers who produce food to be consumed within the State, or farmers who produce Hawaiian plants as defined by section 103D-408(e).”

Page 6, lines 10-12: “(F) In granting leases, establish a preference for farmers who produce food to be consumed within the State, or farmers who produce Hawaiian plants as defined by section 103D-408(e).”

For your reference, section 103D-408(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes, states: “[f]or purposes of this section, ‘Hawaiian plants’ means any endemic or indigenous plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, growing or living in Hawaii without having been brought to Hawaii by humans; or any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, brought to Hawaii by Polynesians before European contact, such as kukui, kalo, wauke, niu, noni, and kamani.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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

February 10, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON HB 774, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice-Chair DeCoite, 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 opposes HB 774, HD1, creating a hierarchy in types of agriculture within an agricultural park.

The strength of agriculture is in its' diversity. Each type of agriculture has a role in our environment to not only feed us but to cloth, house, energize, and enhance our senses. We must not underestimate the need of a strong floriculture and nursery industry. Many of our pests such as the iris yellows on onions and rust on ohia that can decimate our rainforests enter Hawaii via flowers (alstromeria for Iris yellows and eucalyptus spp. for ohia rust).

We do not question the importance of food production but believe its' success will exist when we have a strong diversified agricultural system. We agree Hawaiian plants provide an opportunity to farmers. We do believe that placing crops in a hierarchy sends the wrong message, minimizing the role of other types of crops within the agricultural system.

We respectfully request your **opposition** of this measure recognizing that diversity results in a strong agricultural system.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:30 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:36 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ELITEHAWAII@AOL.COM
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DONNIE BECKER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:35 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: reneeariley@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Renee Riley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Establishing a preference for Hawaiian plants and for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally will help us become more food secure.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:03 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sunnysavage@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:46 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: info@beyondorganicresearch.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Jana Bogs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpahukoa@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Ann Pahukoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:53 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments: Protect People, Health, and 'Āina before toxic corporate profits and encourage corporations to act transparently, cooperatively, and responsibly (which is ultimately even more profitable). www.WeAreOne.cc

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:35 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gr8bluhron@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Billie Dawson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support giving preference to Hawaiian farmers who grow food for human consumption & Hawaiian plants. More preferable are organic, non GMO farmers. M ahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:36 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: oneifbylandenv@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
scott lacasse	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:21 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: breezybees808@Gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Briana Hurley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jsimpliciano@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james simpliciano	HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:48 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ealoi@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Aloii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:04 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tracy.emills@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracy E Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:09 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 10, 2017

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Richard Creagan, Chair; Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair; and Committee Members
Public Hearing, February 10, 2017 at 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 312

**TESTIMONY of WILLIAM F. ANONSEN
MANAGING PARTNER/PRINCIPAL of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC
IN SUPPORT of the INTENT of H.B. 774 HD1 (AGRICULTURAL LANDS)**

My name is William Anonsen and I am the Managing Partner/Principal of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC. We strongly support the intent of HB 774 HD1 which would require the Board of Agriculture, when negotiating and executing leases for agricultural and non-agricultural park lands, to establish a preference for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants, to incorporate an added classification to include: **“agricultural feedstock for livestock used for food”**.

Hawaii’s cattle industry continues to suffer from many constraints; to include the high cost of imported feed, limited suitable grazing lands, expensive shipping costs, coupled in recent years with multiyear droughts which has contributed to the shrinking of herds by 30% state wide. For many years, the vast majority of calves born in Hawaii have been shipped to feedlots on the mainland, where they are matured, and then slaughtered, with the processed beef being shipped back to Hawaii.

Hawaii ranches give birth to about 40,000 calves each year, with only 4,000 cows slaughtered in Hawaii. We import over 90% of our beef and 80% of our milk consumption, which significantly contributes to our State’s significant reliance on out-of-state food sourcing, contributing to increased cost to our ranchers and farmers and puts at risk food shortages in the event of a natural disaster, service disruption and other external factors that are beyond the State’s control.

We support and appreciate the intent of H.B. 774 HD1 and provide the following comments for your consideration. It is recommended that the bill’s agriculture classifications be extended to include biofuels agriculture crops that are used to produce local feedstock for livestock, such as ranch cattle, cow dairies and other feedstocks which help to support and contribute to our local sustainable food supply.

We recommend and request the incorporation of the following amendments to include:

Add to the purpose of the Act on page 2:

Line 6, currently reads:

“...to establish a preference for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants.”

Amend to read:

“...to establish a preference for farmers who produce food and agricultural feedstock for livestock used for food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants.”

Add to "Preference right" on page 2:

Lines 20-21, currently read;

" Is a farmer who produces food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants, shall be given preference in obtaining an agricultural park lot."

Amend to read:

" Is a farmer who produces food and agricultural feedstock for livestock used for food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants, shall be given preference in obtaining an agricultural park lot."

Add to "Section 3" on page 3:

Lines 19-20, currently read;

"(4) For preferences for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants."

Amend to read;

" (4) For preferences for farmers who produce food and agricultural feedstocks for livestock used for food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants."

Add to "Section 4" on page 4:

Lines 13-14, currently read;

" (2) For preferences for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants."

Amend to read;

" (4) For preferences for farmers who produce food and agricultural feedstocks for livestock used for food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants."

Add to "Section 5" on page 6:

Lines 10-11, currently read;

" (F) In granting leases, establish a preference for farmers who produce food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants."

Amend to read;

" (F) In granting leases, establish a preference for farmers who produce food and agricultural feedstocks for livestock used for food to be consumed locally and Hawaiian plants."

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide recommended amendments to this bill

Sincerely,

William F. Anonsen

William F. Anonsen

Managing Partner/Principal

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: marcy cayton@rocketmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB774

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marcy cayton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 7:30 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB774 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*



HB774

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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