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TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FEBRUARY 24, 2017
12:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 891 HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 891 HD1, which proposes to develop a strategic plan that identifies benchmarks for increased food production in Hawaii and increased exports of food crops and value-added products from Hawaii. The Department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget and offers comments.

The Department recognizes the importance of metrics in determining local food production in the State. Strategic planning will allow the State to identify attainable goals for the State as it moves into a diversified agricultural economy. The Department would also like to note that strategic planning is complex and often controversial, therefore the Department asks for resources to allow for planning as the Department lacks the expertise to do this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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February 24, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 891, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 308
12:30 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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.

Hawaii Farm Bureau **strongly supports HB 891, HD1**, requiring the Department of Agriculture to develop an implementation plan to increase local food production.

HFB supports any initiative that support Hawaii's small farmers and encourages new farming businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.