

**SB 881**

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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**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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2017  
1:15 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 881  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 881, which establishes a grant program within Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Department strongly supports this bill.

The Agribusiness Development Corporation serves as the development arm of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture and their ability to provide grants will enhance capabilities to expand Hawaii's agricultural economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2017 4:45 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** swhalen@harc-hspa.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB881 on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM

**SB881**

Submitted on: 1/26/2017

Testimony for AEN on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephanie A Whalen	HARC	Support	No

Comments: As many of the new farming operations are start ups it is important that they get some monetary support in the form of grants. In the past there was a very effective program, ADP, funded through federal funds through USDA-NRCS. That support no longer exists for promising agricultural programs trying to expand.

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**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor



**JAMES J. NAKATANI**  
Executive Director

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**TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Friday, February 3, 2017  
1:15 p.m.

**SENATE BILL NO. 881  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”) strongly supports Senate Bill No. 881 which establishes a grant program within Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to support Hawaii’s farms and emerging agribusiness operations.

The ADC is an agency attached to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture tasked with transitioning former plantation lands and water systems for diversified agriculture and providing solutions to certain bottleneck issues facing today’s agriculture industry.

Establishing a grant program under 163D HRS will give ADC the ability to provide capital to farmers and agribusiness operations for critical agriculture-related improvements such as modernizing and expanding existing agricultural operations, which includes equipment modernization and/or replacement,

infrastructure repairs, research and development of new markets and products, and technical training and educational services.

The ability to issue grants will not only allow the ADC to streamline its operations, it will: 1) provide the means to assist local farming operations; 2) make investments to strengthen and diversify Hawaii's agricultural; and 3) attract and retain businesses. In addition to providing ADC with another tool to help move agriculture forward, the ability to issue grants will also help foster partnerships to facilitate ADC projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your consideration of this bill.



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February 3, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 881**  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 224  
1:15 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, 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 supports SB 881**, which establishes an Agribusiness Development Corporation grant program.

ADC was initiated by the agricultural industry as the closure of plantations escalated and there was a need to identify mechanisms that could quickly place farmers on lands that were destined to be idle.

HFB believes that ADC has a tremendous amount of power and has a responsibility in continuing to assist Hawaii's transition from plantation agriculture to smaller diversified agricultural operations.

Hawaii's farmers and ranchers are finding it difficult to secure the financial support necessary to build capacity. Access to ADC grants can result in increased capacity, new business opportunities, increase employment opportunities and address Hawaii's goals of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 29, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** alan@prloffice.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB881 on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM\*

**SB881**

Submitted on: 1/29/2017

Testimony for AEN on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

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