



**LATE**

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March 24, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

**TESTIMONY ON SCR 176/SR 70**

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO NEGOTIATE LAND EXCHANGES FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING PRIVATE LANDS SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM  
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN EXCHANGE FOR STATE LANDS TO BE  
ACQUIRED FOR AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE, AND OTHER HOUSING FOR  
HAWAII RESIDENTS

Room 224  
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Gabbard, Chair Espero, and Members of the Committees:

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 strongly supports SCR 176/SR 7**, enabling exchange of private lands for State lands in the urban corridor for housing for Hawaii residents.

Transfer of Development Rights is a common mechanism used by States on the Continent to preserve agricultural lands. The practice has not been adopted in Hawaii and SCR 176/SR 70 provides a good alternative.

The majority of agricultural lands are on the neighbor islands. This measure complements HB 1584, implementing the County designation phase of the IAL initiative. We request clarification that the agricultural lands can be located on any of the islands. The Counties should be consulted about their plans for investments in agricultural expansion. We suggest the following changes:

Line 40 page 3:

- (1) Obtain large tracts of suitable agricultural lands for the State on any of the Counties to lease to farmers for diversified agriculture; and

Page 4 Line 14

- (1) The feasibility of any land exchanges of agricultural parcels of high interest to the State on any of the Counties, in exchange for urbanized lands ....

HFB respectfully requests your strong support of SCR 176/SR 70 to advance agriculture into the next generation. When enacted, we envision the exchanged lands to be designated as IAL to meet the Constitutional Mandate for future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:** [darakawa@lurf.org](mailto:darakawa@lurf.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SCR176 on Mar 24, 2017 14:45PM  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 1:04:59 PM

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**SCR176**

Submitted on: 3/24/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN/HOU on Mar 24, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) STRONGLY SUPPORTS SCR 176/SR90, which requests that the Governor negotiate land exchanges for the purpose of acquiring private lands suitable for long-term diversified agriculture production in exchange for state lands to be acquired for affordable workforce and other housing for Hawaii residents. The State needs more available agricultural lands for viable production of food and other agricultural products; and there is also a dire need for the development of more affordable, workforce and other housing for Hawaii residents. This legislation is a win-win for Agriculture and Affordable Housing. LRUF respectfully urges your favorable consideration of SCR 176/SR90.

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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