

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

**APRIL 13, 2018
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 734
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
THE AGRICULTURE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DIANE LEY, FOR A TERM TO
EXPIRE 06-30-2022**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 734. This measure seeks to confirm Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Ms. Ley has an tremendous background and experience in Hawaii agriculture at all levels of government, serving with the United States Department of Agriculture as the State Director of Farm Service Agency, Deputy to Chairperson of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and currently serving as the Hawaii County Director of the Department of Research and Development. Her dedication to local agriculture can be seen in her leadership and commitment to various agricultural organizations including the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii and the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. Diane has a vast knowledge of Hawaii's agricultural industry that is second to none and her presence and voice on the Board of Agriculture presents a vital opportunity for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





Research Corporation
of the University of Hawai'i

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

April 13, 2018

By

Sylvia Yuen, Executive Director
The Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH)

GM 734. Gubernatorial nominee to Board of Agriculture—Diane Ley

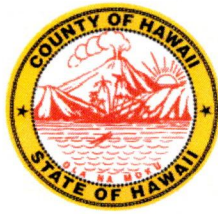
Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Gil Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Diane Ley's confirmation to the Board of Agriculture for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

Ms. Ley has more than two decades of working in various agencies focused on agriculture, including the Hawaii Bureau Federation, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and USDA Farm Service Agency—Hawaii and Pacific Basin. She currently serves as the Director of Research and Development for the County of Hawaii. All of these experiences provide Ms. Ley with deep knowledge of agriculture—from the constituents and governmental perspectives—as well as the economic, infrastructure, consumer, and other issues that comprise a macro-view of agriculture.

Because of her calm manner and ability to find common ground among different viewpoints, Ms. Ley is trusted and highly regarded among administrators and colleagues. Moreover, her positions are well reasoned and she is able to relate to people from different educational, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

I have great respect for Ms. Ley and am confident she will be an asset and valuable member of the Board of Agriculture. I urge you to confirm her appointment to this important Board.

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

April 3, 2018

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Gabbard and Committee Members:

Re: GM 734 Relating to Diane Ley for Board of Agriculture
Hearing Date: 04/13/2018 - 1:15 pm; Conference Room 224

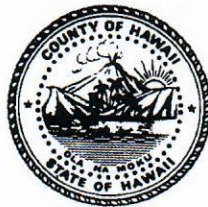
It is not often that a true sense of pride and confidence is felt when writing a letter of support and endorsement for an individual. Ms. Diane Ley is currently the Director of the Hawai'i County Research and Development Department. She was selected by me to serve in that position with no consideration given to any other individuals. Ms. Ley first worked with me as the Department Director of Research and Development back in 2001. It was during these 8 years as Director that her work ethics, trustworthiness, and pure dedication to good and hard work came to be known to all that worked with her. After this past election Ms. Ley was asked by me to serve in a higher position, however, declined as she felt she could be of better service to the community as the Research and Development Director. This is Ms. Ley!

Ms. Diane Ley would be a credit and a tremendous asset to the Board of Agriculture if confirmed. I am honored to be able to endorse Ms. Ley. Thank you for the consideration and hopefully the confirmation of Ms. Diane Ley.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim
Mayor, County of Hawai'i

*From the office of -
Council Member
District 3*



Office: (808) 961-8396
Fax: (808) 961-8912
Email: sue.leeloy@hawaiicounty.gov

SUSAN L.K. LEE LOY
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

April 09, 2018

The Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 734: Nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture

1:15 p.m. April 13, Conference Room 224

Dear Senator Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Ms. Ley brings to the Board a wealth of experience and institutional knowledge having served in various capacities in this field of work both at the county and state levels.

I have every reason to believe Ms. Ley will continue to provide effective contributions to the Board of Agriculture, and the State of Hawai'i will benefit from her experience and leadership.

Aloha Piha,

Susan "Sue" L.K. Lee Loy
Council Member, County of Hawai'i



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

April 13, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 734
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
AGRICULTURE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DIANE LEY, FOR A TERM TO
EXPIRE 06-30-2022.

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.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports the confirmation and appointment of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Her extensive agriculture background through her community, the private sector, and the local government will serve her well. Ms. Ley is the current Director of the Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawaii. She is also a former Hawaii Farm Bureau Employee, Deputy to the Chairperson of Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and State Executive Director of USDA Farm Service Agency Hawaii and Pacific Basin, just to name a few.

Through our work experience with Ms. Ley, we find her to be fair and honest and believe she will serve the people of Hawaii with fairness while developing strategic solutions for the future of agriculture.

We respectfully request your support of Ms. Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for Ms. Ley.



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

Friday, April 13, 2018 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street


My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association (HFNA). HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 350 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture. Our organization is a non-profit membership organization whose purpose is to enhance its members' business success through enactment of laws to advance the common business interests of the members, education, marketing, research and services; to encourage and promote the betterment of conditions that will create and sustain an economically viable flower and plant industry; and to promote the growing and exporting of Hawaii flowers and plants.

Ms. Ley would be a valuable asset to the Board of Agriculture and we fully support her nomination as the Hawaii Island Representative.

In my role of President of HFNA, I have had the opportunity to interact with Ms. Diane Ley and have found her to be well versed on the trials and tribulations that effect farmers and ranchers here in Hawaii. She has shown a willingness to listen and spend the time needed to understand these challenges we experience in Hawaii.

It would be my pleasure to answer any other questions regarding the expertise Ms. Diane Ley can bring to this position and I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,



Eric S. Tanouye

President

Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

Friday, April 13, 2018 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SUPPORT FOR GM 734 – Diane Ley

Aloha,

My name is Thong Teng Neo and am the current President of the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council (HTFC). HTFC is a statewide association of commodity organizations, ie: anthurium, orchid, protea, tropic flowers and foliages, blooming and foliage plants. The Hawai'i Tropical Flower Council directs promotion and supports research of Hawaii's tropical flower industry. Each of the state's major flower commodity groups (anthuriums, orchids, proteas, tropic flowers and foliages, blooming and foliage plants) is represented on the council's board of directors. HTFC serves as a non-profit Hawaii Corporation to promote for its commodity groups and other producers of tropical horticulture grown in the State of Hawaii.

We would like to express our **support** for Ms. Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture as the Hawaii Island Representative.

We have Ms. Ley to be well educated in the problems that face Hawaii's Farmers and Ranchers. She has the experience to see solutions and we believe she would be of great service to Hawaii island in this position.

Thank you for taking the time to read this correspondence and if you have any questions I can be reached at neo@greenpointnursery.com or 808 959 3535 ext 2615.

Sincerely,

Thong Teng Neo
President
Hawaii Tropical Flower Council



THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

Friday, April 13, 2018 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SUPPORT FOR GM 734 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.

Aloha,

My name is Jon Tanouye and I am the current President of the Orchid Growers of Hawaii (OGOH).

We would like to express our **support** for Ms. Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture

We consider Ms. Ley to be well qualified for this position and would be a great representative for the Big Island.

If you have any other questions you may contact me to discuss and I can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 or via email at jon@greenpointnursery.com.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Tanouye
President
Orchid Growers of Hawaii (OGOH)



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT
Friday, April 13, 2018 — 1:15 p.m. — Room 224

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports GM 734, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, Diane Ley, for a Term to Expire 6-30-2022

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better management of waste and fresh water. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports GM 734, which appoints Diane Ley for a term on the Board of Agriculture.

We have known Diane Ley for several decades and her work in public service in support of agriculture has always been exemplary. She helped our farmers during her tenure at the USDA Farm Service Agency, in her various county roles, and has been a tireless advocate for local agriculture. Her decisions have always been marked by the thoughtfulness and temperance, showing an ability to consider and balance the issues.

We are impressed with Ms. Ley's work and feel she would make a great member of the Board of Agriculture. We look forward to working with her in the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/7/2018 9:59:43 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Love	Testifying for Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers is in Full Support Of Ms Ley for the Board of Agriculture. Her contributions to Hawaiian agriculture is well documented over many years. Her assistance to commodity groups like ours and to individual grower and producers has gone above and beyond the call of duty. She would be an excellent addition to the board.

HAWAII FISH COMPANY Inc.
Established 1978

P. O. Box 740
Waialua, HI 96791, USA
Cellular: 808-429-3147, 429-3187
E-mail: hawaiifish@gmail.com

City Bank TIGR Award 2000- Aquaculture
U.S. SBA Tibbetts Award/
SBIR Hall of Fame 2000
Certificate of Congressional Recognition

April 8, 2018

To:

[COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT](#)

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, April 13, 2018
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 224
State Capitol

From: Ron Weidenbach, Co-Owner, President
Hawaii Fish Company Inc.

Re: GM734 - Nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Rivere and Members of the Committee:

As Co-Owners of Hawaii Fish Company Inc., Hawaii's oldest commercial food fish farm, my wife, Lita, and I are honored to offer our unqualified strong support for your consideration and confirmation of Diane Ley's nomination to the Board of Agriculture for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

Diane is exceptionally well qualified to serve as a Board Director given her extensive agricultural and administrative experience in County, State, and Federal agricultural, economic development, and research and development positions, and in the private sector.

I have had the pleasure to know Diane as a fellow alumni of the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii, and in her prior government administrative and leadership capacities over approximately two decades. During this time and in many diverse settings, I have always found Diane to be a very calm, well informed, and thoughtful decision maker and collaborative leader.

Lita and I believe Diane has the personal and professional qualities and experiences needed to serve effectively on the Board of Agriculture as our State seeks to support and expand local food production, enhance food safety, consider rational and appropriate pesticide oversight, and embrace the modernization of Hawaii agriculture. This will require the support of increased technological innovations and the transition to a more diversified growing sector comprised primarily of small and mid-sized farms.

Given the above, we strongly support the nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/9/2018 9:53:52 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Kellerman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Diane Ley has been a champion of the Hawaiian Agriculture industry for many years and would serve as an excellent representative under this capacity. I have worked alongside her on many occasions with the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii, and can confirm she operates with integrity, intellects, and with the citizens of Hawaii's best interest.

Mahalo

Taylor Kellerman

Director of Diversified Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Kualoa Ranch Hawaii



Ponoholo Ranch Limited

P O BOX 700489
KAPOLEI, HI 96709
(808) 306-7769

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Friday April 13, 2018 1:15 p.m. Room 224

GM 734 DIANE LEY NOMINATION

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee,
DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am the Vice President of Ponoholo Ranch Limited.

I **strongly supports** GM 734, the nomination of Diane Ley for the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Diane is a leader in the Hawaii agricultural industry, and has been so for over two decades, during which time she has been not only a trusted advisor, but a close friend. These interactions include:

- Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation efforts
- Ag Day at the Legislature – we were part of the founding organizers
- Commodity Advisory Group – where we collaborated to pass \$19 million in ag irrigation funds, the first such appropriation in a long, long time, and engaged in the discussions that led to the enactment of the Important Ag Lands Act
- Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii
- Hawaii Board of Agriculture

Furthermore, Diane's administrative positions in the federal, state and county government have afforded her a solid understanding of policy and programmatic development and implementation which impact agriculture and Hawaii's rural communities. She does not shy away from making tough decisions that are based upon data, facts and the law or established policies. Her experience as a farmer has provided her with an honest understanding of the challenges producers have, to bring products to the market while protecting the environment and making a go of it as a business.

Here varied agricultural employment includes the following:

- County of Hawai`i Department of Research and Development, Director, December 2016 – Present
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency for Hawai`i and the Pacific Basin, State Executive Director, August 2009 – November 2016
- County of Hawai`i Department of Research and Development, Deputy Director March 2005 – July 2009
- State of Hawai`i Department of Agriculture, Deputy to the Chairperson, February 2003 – February 2005
- Hawai`i Farm Bureau Federation, Administrative Assistant, March 1993 – February 2003

Diane has great integrity and is a very hard working individual. Diane will continue to represent the agricultural industry well on the Board of Agriculture.

I previously served on the State Board of Agriculture with Diane for four years and ALWAYS found her to be an advocate for Hawaii farmers and ranchers, especially for the small farmer.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to testify in strong support of the nomination for Diane Ley.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, April 13, 2018
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 224

**GM734 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture,
Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.**

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dale Sandlin, and I am Managing Director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 140+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports** the nomination of Diane Ley.

Diane has been a supporter of the Hawaii Cattle Industry and all of Agriculture. She has been instrumental in many efforts to advance agriculture in Hawaii. She has held several positions at the county, state and federal levels which have provided her the experience necessary for this position.

Diane has worked with or for many agricultural entities such as the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, the Hawaii Department of Agriculture as the Deputy Director, the USDA Farm Service Agency as the Executive Director, and the County of Hawaii Department of Research and Development as both the Deputy Director and then the Director.

Her leadership has been evidenced over the past few decades and she will no doubt be a great advocate for all producers on the Board of Agriculture.

We urge you to **support** Ms. Ley's nomination and we appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



GM-734

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 11:36:47 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heather Simmons	Testifying for Hawaii Forest Industry Association	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of the Hawaii Forest Industry Association, I support the nomination of Diane Ley for the Board of Agriculture. Diane has been very supportive for our Christmas Tree Demonstration project.

According to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, shipments of Christmas trees from the Pacific Northwest have been found to be widely infested with slugs and other pests that are not found in Hawai'i. The concern about the heavy infestation of slugs is that they may carry the parasite, *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*, or rat lungworm, which causes a disease that affects the human brain and spinal cord. Once an invasive pest or disease becomes established in Hawai'i, it may have a devastating impact on Hawai'i agriculture by causing damage to crops and is often costly for the state and growers to control. These invasive species can be very harmful to Hawai'i's unique ecosystems. Providing the Hawaiian Islands with locally grown Christmas trees will support import replacement and promote the "Buying Local, It Matters" message.

Diane has participated in our Specialty Crop workshop and supported our efforts to grow local Christmas tree through grant funding.

Mahalo,

Heather Simmons, Executive Director

Hawaii Forest Industry Association

hfia@hawaiiforest.org

808-933-9411

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 4:58:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Testifying for Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

Diane has every qualification to be an excellent BOA Member. Excellent choice.

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/8/2018 7:25:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Kai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the appointment of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture. She is a proven leader in agriculture and has shown her dedication to improving the industry in Hawaii. Diane is exactly the kind of leader we need to help move agriculture forward. Our industry has seen many challenges recently and Diane can help to drive new initiatives and direction that will bring agriculture back to the place we need in Hawaii.

Thank You,

Steven Kai

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 8:43:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Galimba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee-members,

I would like to express my support for the nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture. Ms. Ley is reknown in Hawaii's agricultural community for her devotion to promoting agriculture and for her unwavering support of farmers. She is a mentor to countless agricultural leaders and an inspirational example of public service at the highest level.

Sincerely,

Michelle Galimba

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 8:29:25 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Ornellas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Testimony for the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Hearing on Friday, April 13, 2018; 1:15 pm
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 224
By Kelvin Sewake**

**IN SUPPORT OF GM 734 – RELATING TO CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, DIANE LEY.**

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Riviere, and Committee Members:

I am currently the Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director for Extension at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. However, I am submitting this as personal testimony.

Mahalo for allowing me to provide testimony on GM 734, in which I strongly support the nomination of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture. I have known Ms. Ley and her many active leadership roles that she has played in agriculture since 1993 when she first became the administrative assistant to the Big Island Farm Bureau Federation. Since then, she has served as the Deputy Chair of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, State Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency, and Director and also Deputy Director for the County of Hawai'i's Department of Research and Development. She has served on various boards including the Hawai'i Board of Agriculture, Hawai'i State Agribusiness Development Corporation, Agriculture Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i, and more.

Having worked directly with Ms. Ley on numerous occasions for over 25 years, I know that Ms. Ley has a proven track record of accomplishments in supporting agriculture at the county, state and federal government levels. Those work experiences in her various roles have given her a very broad and in-depth knowledge of the complex agriculture issues facing farmers today. She has come to know many farmers, community members, and organizations across the state and has the experience, capabilities, and most of all, the passion for Hawai'i agriculture and its farmers.

Mahalo for your consideration of Ms. Ley's nomination to the Board of Agriculture and for this opportunity to testify in her support!

Sincerely,



Kelvin T. Sewake

████████████████████
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

From: [Yarrow Flower](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:05:07 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Dawn Bicoy](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:07:32 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Miles Hakoda](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:17:01 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Randall Francisco](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:04:23 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [LORAIN TERADA](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 684
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:30:23 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 684, which nominates Margarita Hopkins to serve on the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Jaclyn Kaina](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 732
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:26:25 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 732, which nominates Fredrick Cowell to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [LORAIN TERADA](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:35:49 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Randall Yokoyama](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:45:10 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Clyde Fukuyama](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:07:40 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 5:59:20 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
phyllis shimabukuro	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee,

i strongly support Diane Ley for your consideration and confirmation as a member for the Board of Agriculture. I have worked with Ms. Ley for many years on many issues that impact Hawaiian agriculture and farming families. Ms. Ley is extremely knowledgeable of agriculture at the grass roots, local, state and national levels. Ms. Ley will bring her highly qualified and experienced skill set to HDOA and the Board of Agriculture.

i respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of Diane Ley, Governor's Message 734.

Mahalo,

Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 10:01:37 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Miyamoto	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

From: [Alvin Tsuruda](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 7:59:25 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Arnold Hara](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 7:02:10 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Blake Rabe](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:37:17 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Derek Kurisu](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:58:00 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [GLENN TOYAMA](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:15:55 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [John Gordines](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:32:17 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Jolene Lau](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 7:15:48 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Laila Jayyousi](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 8:52:37 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Larry Jefts](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:57:34 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Mark Phillipson](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 6:41:19 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Melvin Matsuda](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:58:35 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Phil Becker](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:13:27 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Robert Paull](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:28:11 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Tom Shigemoto](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 6:13:17 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Wayne Katayama](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:16:52 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!



PO Box 168, Kealahou, HI 96750
808-929-9550

HAWAII STATE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday, April 13, 2018
1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 224

RE: Testimony in Support of GM 734

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and members of the Committee,

I am Chris Manfredi, President of Hawaii Coffee Association.

The Hawaii Coffee Association's (HCA) mission is to represent all sectors of the Hawaiian coffee industry, including growers, millers, wholesalers, roasters and retailers located throughout the State of Hawaii. The HCA's primary objective is to increase awareness and consumption of Hawaiian coffees. A major component of HCA's work is the continuing education of members and consumers. According to the USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service, (NASS), the Hawaiian Coffee industry is conservatively ranked as the second-highest value crop in Hawaii - not accounting for retail sales.

The HCA strongly supports DIANE LEY as a nominee to the Board of Agriculture.

Diane has the knowledge, background, sensibilities and work ethic to be an effective leader on the Board of Agriculture. Diane has deep roots and experience in all matters relating to agriculture at all levels of government and the private sector, including advocacy. Her leadership and communication skills are above reproach. She will be a strong and balanced asset to the Board, the State of Hawaii and all who depend on agriculture. We can think of no better candidate for this position. **The Hawaii Coffee Association strongly supports this nominee.**

Thank you for your support of DIANE LEY.

GM-734

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 11:28:15 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: [Halina Zaleski](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 11:15:47 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

My name is Halina M. Zaleski and I am a Swine Extension Specialist with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I am pleased to provide personal testimony on GM 734. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawai'i or CTAHR.

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture. Diane Ley has the depth of background and broad vision to be an effective contributor in this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [mike hughes](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 11:01:53 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Diana Duff](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 9:02:30 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Luana Beck](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 9:46:50 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [paul Kaneshiro](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 12:21:40 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Thomas Greenwell](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 11:49:14 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [adam killermann](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Friday, April 13, 2018 6:28:19 AM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [David Fuertes](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:47:06 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: [Donna Woolley](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT GM 734
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 5:33:37 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 734, which nominates Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

Diane L. Ley
HC3 Box 4705
Keaau, Hawai'i 96749
808-936-1302
dianelley@gmail.com

April 11, 2018

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Hawai'i State Senate
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Governor's Message 734 Nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture

Dear Chair Gabbard,

I regret that I will not be able to attend the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment (AEN) hearing on April 13, 2018, due to prior work-related commitments. Please find my written statement below:

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Agriculture?

I believe that I will be able to effectively contribute to the Board of Agriculture (BOA) and the Department's mission and role in affecting the growth and development of Hawai'i's agricultural sector.

My passion and much of my professional and volunteer work is and has been focused on assuring the agricultural sector continues to advance and thrive. Service on the BOA would allow me to continue to service the producers of Hawai'i.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Agriculture?

The Board of Agriculture provides the Department of Agriculture with critical policy direction and weighs and makes decisions relative to specific authorities which can advance Hawai'i agriculture through the preservation and productive use of related agricultural resources, as well as protect Hawai'i agriculture from harm and degradation.

Board of Agriculture members should serve as engaged and thoughtful participants in reviewing proposals and initiatives and reach conclusions that are fair, equitable and lawful.

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
RE: GM734 Nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture
April 11, 2018
Page 2

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Agriculture, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board of Agriculture.

I have demonstrated commitment and a long history of dedicated public and non-profit service, much of that time focused in the field of agriculture and Hawai'i's rural communities. I previously farmed and worked for established farms and plan to return to that business in the future.

I am familiar with many government policies, functions and processes, including those specifically related to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, Hawai'i State Ethics, Sunshine and Open Records laws. I have previously served as a Board Member of the Hawai'i Board of Agriculture and the Agribusiness Development Corporation, both as an appointed community member to those boards and providing departmental support to the Board of Agriculture as the Deputy to the Chairperson and as the Department's designee to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Service in successive leadership appointments in federal, state and county government have afforded me a deep knowledge and understanding of the challenges and opportunities before Hawai'i's agricultural sector and the critical collaborative role that government plays with the private sector.

Finally, I strongly believe that a "day job" in public service is insufficient to meet the many needs of Hawai'i's agricultural sector; thus, I have served Hawai'i's agricultural producers through non-profit boards and initiatives, including the Hawai'i Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i and the Hawai'i Agriculture Conference.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

If confirmed by the Senate, I anticipate collaboratively contributing to the Department's ability to advance and meet the needs of the sector, including initiatives and programs that will result in an increased number of new producers and operations, and expanded and enhanced infrastructure and systems to support the growth and success of commercial agriculture throughout the state; thereby, contributing to the State's goals to protect agricultural lands, expand local food production, enhance food safety, and the modernization of production and supportive systems throughout the State.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Board of Agriculture?

Knowledgeable – I am knowledgeable about agriculture across the state. I know many of the producers, supportive infrastructure, and the physical and social environment, as well as the sector’s numerous opportunities and challenges. Additionally, I have direct leadership experience working with county, state and federal administrative and legislative bodies in the development and implementation of programs and initiatives that serve producers. The “knowledge” that I will bring to the BOA will contribute to balanced and appropriate decision-making.

Equitable – I am open and fair and make decisions based upon facts, the law and established policies. As a public body, the BOA is entrusted to serve in an “equitable” manner.

Servant Leader – I am a collaborative servant leader who is committed to doing the homework necessary to understand the producers’ needs and enabling laws and policies and to reach appropriate administrative decisions. The quality of “servant leader” aligns closely with the public mission of the BOA.

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Board of Agriculture?

I served as the Deputy to the Board of Agriculture from 2003-2005, which afforded me a deep understanding of the enabling statutes, administrative rules and policies that provide the authority for the Department’s work and guide it on a day-to-day basis in its ability affect the development and expansion of agriculture in the short and long term. I also understand the administrative functions and staffing roles within the Department and the resulting interface with policy-makers and producers throughout the state.

I am directly familiar with typical and atypical issues and matters that come before the BOA for decision-making and the critical role that staff and the various departmental advisory committees play in assembling information and recommendations for the BOA’s review and decision-making.

I also understand the BOA has traditionally delegated responsibility for day-to-day operations of the Department to the Chairperson of the BOA, but ultimately the BOA is accountable for outcomes of the Department. I also understand that the BOA’s role is not to enact legislation, but rather its role is to fairly and equitably administer applicable policies and the law.

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
RE: GM734 Nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture
April 11, 2018
Page 4

The BOA would benefit from my knowledge and unique experiences and perspectives, which other board members may not necessarily bring to the discussion and decision-making process.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board of Agriculture? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not anticipate any conflicts of interests arising, as I am not engaged in any farming or ranching businesses, and my employment and non-profit engagement is of a collaborative nature with the Hawai`i Department of Agriculture vs. a regulatory or other administrative function that may go before the BOA for decision-making.

Nevertheless, if any conflict of interest were to arise, I would announce such conflict and recuse myself from deliberation and decision-making. As necessary, this may include prior consultation with an ethics officer or the Attorney General's Office via the Chairperson's Office.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written comments. Should you or any of the AEN committee members have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination to the BOA.

Sincerely,



Diane Ley