

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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 1015
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1015, 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



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Friday, February 10, 2017
8:30 a.m.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1015
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”). The ADC strongly supports House Bill No. 1015 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.



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 1015
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 supports HB 1015, 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: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:28 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

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:

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:19 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

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 8:35 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ELITEHAWAII@AOL.COM
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

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 |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: reneeariley@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM

HB1015

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: We need to encourage and support farmers.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:24 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpahukoa@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mary Ann Pahukoa | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:47 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM

HB1015

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 | Individual | 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 10:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gr8bluhron@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Billie Dawson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:33 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: oneifbylandenv@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| scott lacasse | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 3:55 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sunnysavage@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunny Savage-Luskin | Individual | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: info@beyondorganicresearch.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dr. Jana Bogs | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

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

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| Neil Vonhof | Individual | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tracy.emills@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

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

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| Tracy E Mills | Individual | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lucas@kaulana.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
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| C. Kai Lucas | Individual | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:19 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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

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| Tulsi Greenlee | Individual | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: breezybees808@Gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1015 on Feb 10, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1015

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

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| Briana Hurley | Individual | Support | No |

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