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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**FEBRUARY 15, 2017
8:40 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO 167
RELATING TO THE DECOMMISSIONING AND RELOCATION OF THE ANIMAL
QUARANTINE STATION IN HALAWA VALLEY**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 167. This bill makes an appropriation for the decommissioning and relocation of the Animal Quarantine Station located in Halawa Valley. The Department supports this measure.

The Animal Quarantine Station houses dogs and cats under observation for detection of clinical rabies disease and exotic tick parasites. Rabies is a progressive, fatal neurological disease that affects all mammals, including humans. The Rabies Quarantine Program is successful in fulfilling its mission of preventing the entry of the rabies virus in dogs, cats and other carnivores. Since 2003, dogs and cats meeting specified rabies vaccination, serology testing, microchip identification, waiting period and inspection no longer require quarantine to enter Hawaii. Approximately 90% of animals qualified for release after inspection in FY 2016 and were not housed at the Animal Quarantine Station. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture recognizes the impact the Direct Airport Release Program and the Neighbor Island Inspection Permit program has had on the population housed at the Animal Quarantine Station and the



number of kennels needed to support the program has significantly decreased. The average daily population is approximately 200 – 280 dogs and cats.

The Department has requested \$1.5 million from the legislature this session to support the design and construction of facilities to house the Animal Industry Division as a cohesive unit, including the Animal Quarantine Station. It is recommended that a multi-step process be undertaken to decommission and relocate of the current facility because it requires expertise outside of the Animal Industry Division and the Department involving site identification, design and construction of new facilities. The variety and magnitude of issues to be examined will require expertise in a number of areas such as: land and real property appraisal and evaluation, infrastructure, design and construction review, impact on community, environment and stakeholders, suitability and accessibility, impact on staff and the logistics of relocation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 6:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rkailianu57@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB167 on Feb 15, 2017 08:40AM*



HB167

Submitted on: 2/15/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 15, 2017 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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