

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**DOUGLAS S. CHIN**  
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 WAYS AND MEANS  
Wednesday, April 3, 2018  
10:00 a.m.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1976 HD1  
RELATING TO IRRIGATION

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation ("ADC"). The ADC supports House Bill No. 1976 HD1, which authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriates funds to finance capital improvements to the Waiahole Irrigation System.

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.

The Waiahole Irrigation System (System) provides water to approximately 5,866 acres in the central plain that are in agricultural use. The system is of critical importance not only because of the impact on the production of crops but also because of the economic impact on the community.

Recognizing this, the ADC is taking steps to improve the efficiency of the System to reduce water loss, which can be attributed to several factors including operational practices, seepage, leakage, soil attributes, evaporation and transpiration, illegal withdraws, structure conditions, and climate patterns.

The funding will provide the capital to make the necessary upgrades and improvements to ensure the System can deliver a reliable source of water for agricultural use for another 100 years. We appreciate your consideration of this measure.

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



## **Board of Directors**

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### President

Alan Takemoto

## **IN SUPPORT OF HB 1976, HD1 RELATING TO IRRIGATION**

**LATE**

### Vice-President

Joshua Uyehara

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

April 3, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 211

### Secretary

Dawn Bicoy

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee:

### Treasurer

Laurie Yoshida

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy state economy.

### Directors-at-Large

Adolf Helm

Mark Stoutemyer

Dan Clegg

Gene Harrington

HCIA is in **support of HB 1976, HD1**, which authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriates funds to finance capital improvements to the Waiahole Irrigation System.

### President Emeritus

Kirby Kester

Sufficient funding is needed to improve, repair, and maintain Hawaii's irrigation systems. The Waiahole Irrigation System is one of Hawaii's most important irrigation systems, servicing thousands of acres of productive ag lands in central Oahu.

### Executive Director

Bennette Misalucha

Local farmers who rely on irrigation systems to service their agricultural lands consider such resources critical to conduct their operations and sustain their businesses. Measures such as this will contribute to the long-term betterment of the industry, ensuring that local agricultural producers may continue to receive a dependable supply of water for crops and research and development operations.

Please pass this important bill. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bennette Misalucha

Executive Director, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 7:34:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kekai Quartero	Testifying for K&R Enterprises	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 7:51:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 8:46:17 PM  
Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
irene plunkett	Testifying for HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Bill HB1976, Mahalo

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 2:23:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 2:41:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:00:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:16:30 PM  
Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:16:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Crawford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:57:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cynthia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 3:46:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:41:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 8:33:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Judy R Tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 5:05:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-1976-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 6:19:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 1976, HD1, which authorizes the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds to finance capital improvements to the Waiahole Irrigation System.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Mahalo!

Stephanie Mock	Laila Jayyousi	Rodney & Karol Haraguchi
Luly Unemori	Annette Lee	Susan Mulkern
Robert Paull	Alvin Tsuruda	Jari Sugano
Randy Cabral	John Gordines	Phil Becker
Luana Beck	Mark Phillipson	Clyde Fukuyama
Joni Kamiya	Mark Takemoto	paul Kaneshiro
Gregory Williams	Leann Lum	Donald Sommer