

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
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 FINANCE

**FEBRUARY 21, 2018
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2304 HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thanks for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2304 HD1 relating to industrial hemp. This bill establishes a special fund within the department of agriculture to deposit and expend funds necessary for the operation of the industrial hemp pilot program. The Department strongly supports this bill.

In running the industrial hemp program, the Department will collect application fees, license fees, inspection fees, and fines. The Department hopes that the industrial hemp program eventually becomes self-sustaining, and towards that end finds it to be prudent to deposit money generated by the program into a fund dedicated to the program and its expenses. A special fund would allow program expenditures to be limited to and made according to the funds generated by the program, and not rely on general funds. This will help the Department assess and adjust the appropriateness of fees necessary for the program to be self-sustaining should the program become permanent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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February 21, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2304, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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 is in strong support of HB 2304, HD1, which establishes a special fund within the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to deposit funds necessary for the industrial hemp pilot program.

There is significant interest in growing industrial hemp for various end products in Hawaii. The development of such a program, including the current regulatory requirements to implement the program by the Department will require funds. This measure will assist with this need.

We respectfully request your support of this measure for the development of an alternative crop for Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

HB-2304-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2018 10:10:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We continue to STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. Mahalo.

HB-2304-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 1:25:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Wednesday, February 21, 2018
2:00 p.m.**

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 308

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 2304 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

To the Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair; the Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Finance:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No.2304 HD1 relating to Industrial Hemp Program and Industrial Hemp Special Fund.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No.2304 HD1 and supports its passage.

House Bill No. 2304 HD1 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it establishes the Industrial Hemp Special Fund within the Department of Agriculture to deposit fees and expend funds necessary for the Industrial Hemp Pilot Program.

The DPH Platform states that "[a]griculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened. Sufficient prime agricultural lands must be maintained for the health, economic well-being and sustenance of the people. We believe in an integrated approach to agricultural innovation and sustainability." (Platform of the DPH, P. 2, Lines 76-78 (2016)).

"We likewise support publicly funded research and development for agricultural diversification and value-added products." (Platform of the DPH, P. 2, Lines 106-107 (2016))

Given that House Bill No.2304 HD1 establishes the Industrial Hemp Special Fund within the Department of Agriculture to deposit fees and expend funds necessary for the Industrial Hemp Pilot Program, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889

LATE

HB-2304-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 10:27:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	Yes

Comments:

In strong support of this bill.