

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
Lt. Governor



**LATE**

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture  
PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 7, 2018  
8:30 A.M.  
Room 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2305  
RELATING TO COFFEE BERRY BORER

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill No. 2305. This bill extends the pesticide subsidy program manager position exemption to correspond to the two-year extension of the program by Act 65, SLH 2017, and to continue the position for a year beyond the program sunset date to process applications for subsidies of costs incurred in the final year of the program. The Department strongly supports this bill.

The civil service exemption of the program manager position, which is responsible for division and distribution of available subsidy funds, needs to be extended to correspond to the new program sunset date of June 30, 2021, as extended by Act 65, SLH 2017, and for a year beyond that sunset date because of the particular requirement as to when applications for subsidy must be filed. In order to provide continuous support for local coffee farmers, the pesticide subsidy manager position must be extended.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**HB-2305**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 3:03:17 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randall Francisco	County of Kauai	Support	No

Comments:

# HAWAII COFFEE COMPANY™

1555 Kalani Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
Ph: 808-847-3600  
Fax: 808-847-7900  
www.hicoffeeco.com



Written Testimony of  
**Daniel Dinell**  
**President, Hawaii Coffee Company**  
before the  
**House Committee on Agriculture**  
February 7, 2018; 8:30 am  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

RE: HB 2305 RELATING TO COFFEE BERRY BORER.

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Coffee Company (HCC) **supports** HB 2305, which extends the pesticide subsidy program manager position, including the civil service and collective bargaining exemptions for the position, through June 30, 2022.

HCC has been in the coffee roasting business since 2000 and today is the world's largest roaster of Kona Coffee. Our 100 plus team members at our plant in Kalihi and other locations around the state, including in Captain Cook, the heart of the South Kona coffee district, earn a livelihood milling, roasting, packing, distributing, and retailing coffee. We have a major retail presence throughout Hawaii, are a leading provider of coffee to Hawaii hotels and restaurants as well as an exporter of products around the globe.

HCC does not own or operate any coffee farms, but we support coffee farmers by buying millions of dollars of coffee cherry in the Kona district, pulping and drying it into coffee parchment and milling it into green coffee beans.

We help with education and even facilitate labor and equipment to assist farmers in the rigorous and proven coffee berry borer (CBB) control method that includes application of *Beauveria bassiana*. This Committee, relevant other Committees, and the entire Legislature have acted positively to help coffee farmers combat this pest and help coffee farmers afford this very expensive fungicide to control CBB. The manager position is essential to continue this good work.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



February 1, 2018

Representative Richard P. Creagan, Chair  
Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Agriculture

**Support of HB 2305 Relating to Coffee Berry Borer (Extends through June 30, 2022, the exemption from Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 76, of the Pesticide Subsidy Program Manager position to provide assistance to local coffee farmers for pesticide costs incurred through the final year of the program).**

**Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., in Conference Room 312**

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of HB 2305.**

**HB 2305.** This bill proposes to extend the civil service exemption of the pesticide subsidy program manager position to correspond with the extension of the program pursuant to Act 65 and to further extend the exemption of that position through the fiscal year immediately following the program sunset date in order to process applications for subsidies for costs incurred in the final year of the program.

**LURF's Position.** Extension of the program manager position is necessary to process the applications for subsidies for costs incurred in the final year of the program which assists coffee growers by offsetting the costs of purchasing certain pesticides known to be effective against the coffee berry borer. The highly destructive coffee pest has infested crops on Hawaii island and has recently been detected on Oahu and Maui as well.

Invasive species such as insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, tourism, agriculture, the natural environment, and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people, and already cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native wet, moist and dry land forests, and the spread of disease, but many more harmful pests, including the coffee berry borer, now threaten to invade all of the Hawaiian Islands and wreak further damage.

Support and help of local farmers including coffee growers, is essential to mitigate the threats and impacts of invasive species in Hawaii and to effectively protect Hawaii's natural resources and native species. HB 2305 will assist local coffee growers by extending the Pesticide Subsidy Program Manager position needed to help administer and cover the cost of effective pesticides incurred through the final year of the pesticide subsidy program as intended by Acts 105 (2014) and 152 (2015), which were specifically enacted to aid with the prevention and control of the coffee berry borer and ultimately, the protection of Hawaii's environment and economy.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 2305** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.

**HB-2305**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 4:11:58 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	Yes

Comments:



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



February 7, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2305**  
RELATING TO COFFEE BERRY BORER

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 interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports HB 2305**, which extends the pesticide subsidy program manager position, including the civil service and collective bargaining exemptions for the position, through June 30, 2022.

Coffee is one of Hawaii's signature crops; one that helps bring fame and tourists to Hawaii. Coffee Berry Borer (CBB) threatens the entire Hawaiian coffee industry. While the full tally is yet to be made, farms on Hawaii Island have experienced deep losses. Some have failed. Moreover, large quantities of coffee have been downgraded due to insect damage, reducing the value of the remaining crop. CBB is a serious threat to Hawaii's agriculture industry and the state's economy. While CBB is battled worldwide, no other coffee growing origin shares Hawaii's high labor costs and restrictions on pesticides that may be used elsewhere to fight this destructive pest. This places the industry at a competitive disadvantage when compared to the rest of the coffee-growing world.

Fighting CBB is a priority in other coffee-producing countries. The USDA has expressed its support targeted toward research, education and mitigation. The industry's response has been immediate and multi-faceted. A non-profit CBB task force has been formed, including growers, processors, HDOA, UH, USDA and county government. CTAHR and HDOA have been responsive and effective in their combined efforts. Industry has committed countless private sector dollars and has leveraged both State and Federal funds. The State must continue to do its part.

A recent CTAHR economic analysis estimates FY2013 crop losses due to CBB at \$7.68 million, with a resultant \$571,000 annual loss in state tax revenues. The CBB Pesticide Subsidy Program should be viewed as a modest investment one of the state's largest and most important agricultural industries and the pesticide subsidy program manager position is critical to its success.

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



**LATE**

**HB-2305**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 10:54:05 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Springer Kaye	Big Island Invasive Species Committee	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-2305**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 11:00:07 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Springer Kaye	Kaye Family Farms	Support	No

Comments:

Kaye Family Farms supports this measure and all measures to support farmers dealing with new invasive pests in Hawaii. Mahalo for your consideration.

**LATE**

**HB-2305**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:28:25 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lawrence Ford		Support	No

Comments: