

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 AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 7, 2018  
8:45 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2426  
RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2426, which appropriates funds for the acquisition of high value farm land in west Kauai identified as Tax Map Key: (4) 1-2-006:009 The Department of Agriculture supports this bill.

The Department supports the effort of the Agribusiness Development Corporation and the State in preserving agricultural lands for production. By dedicating resources to support acquisition of agricultural land, the State increases its local production and supports future sustainability for our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony.



**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  
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**TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**  
Wednesday, February 7, 2018  
8:45 a.m.

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2426**  
**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 supports House Bill No. 2426 which appropriates funds for the acquisition of high value farm land in west Kauai identified as Tax Map Key: (4) 1-2-006:009.

West Kauai’s dry climate and high sunlight has been known for producing very high-quality crops. Keeping high value agricultural lands in agriculture should be considered as a high priority because of the potential benefits it presents for Hawaii’s agriculture industry. Since land is a critical component in enhancing the State’s food security, obtaining agricultural lands may significantly increase the available agricultural land on Kauai for food production and may offer many possibilities to boost the economic viability of the west Kauai community and the entire agriculture industry.

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

**HB-2426**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 4:12:27 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 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:



Hartung Brothers, Inc.

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January 30, 2018

Committee on Agriculture  
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Chair  
Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
State of Hawaii Legislature  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Testimony in Support of House Bill No. 2426 Relating to the Agribusiness  
Development Corporation

Dear Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite and Committee members:

On behalf of Hartung Brothers, and as a private citizen raised in Waimea, this is to provide testimony in **strong support** of HB2426, relating to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Our Company, Hartung Brothers Hawaii, is the current long-term lessee and active farmer of the agricultural lands identified in HB2426. As such we have a strong interest in ensuring that the lands remain in agriculture and, more broadly, that prime farmland is protected.

The agricultural lands between Waimea and Kekaha are an important part of the rural character of the west side of Kauai. Agriculture on the west side of Kauai is currently being revitalized and will provide an important engine of economic opportunity and growth for our youth. HB2426 will provide a path to help sustain that positive trajectory, secure the long-term future of agriculture in the area, and make additional, critical long-term investments possible.

Sincerely,

Joshua Uyehara

Vice President – General Manager, Hawaii Operations

A Family Owned Seed Company



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February 7, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2426**  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 312  
8:45 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.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau is in support of HB 2426**, which authorizes the director of finance to issue general obligation bonds and appropriates funds for the acquisition of certain farm lands in west Kauai by the agribusiness development corporation.

HFB believes that in order for agriculture to flourish in Hawaii and reach its full potential, land availability and long-term leases at affordable and predictable lease rental rates are critical. The acquisition by the ADC of farm land in west Kauai will significantly increase the available agricultural land under the State's control and will provide farmers with long-term leases that will enhance the economic viability of Hawaii's agriculture industry.

We believe this is an opportunity to further support and expand the state's ability to provide agricultural lands for farmers, which is consistent with the State's goal of increasing self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

## **Kauai County Farm Bureau**

*Affiliated with Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation*

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***The Voice of Kauai's Agriculture***



**LATE**

**Re: Chair Creagan and Vice Chair DeCoite  
House Committee on Agriculture  
HB 2081**

The Kauai County Farm Bureau supports the passage of HB 2081 relating to the Red Rose Ringed Parakeet (RRRP). The RRRP has continued to affect Kauai farmers and they are taking a financial loss due to the aggressive feeding and roosting habits of the parakeets. The visitor industry is also being affected by the loud volume and nuisance that they are displaying at the visitor destinations not to mention the health hazards of their waste. They are also becoming a threat to our native birds, their food and nesting sites. This is a major problem that is escalating very rapidly. Kauai County Farm Bureau has over 300 members and we encourage you to approve funding for continued research and most importantly eradication!

Respectfully,  
John R. Gordines  
President  
Kauai County Farm Bureau