



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 4, 2018
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
HB 2671, HD1, SD1
RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

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

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) would like to offer the following comments on HB 2671, HD1, SD1, which appropriates monies to DBEDT to collaboratively work with The Office of the Governor, DLIR, DBEDT, DHRD, and DOA to assist dislocated workers and address the overall continued availability and gainful employment of the island of Molokai.

- DBEDT would be pleased to work collaboratively with our sister agencies.
- Suggested appropriated sum is not known at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

Councilmembers
Alika Atay
Elle Cochran
Don S. Guzman
Riki Hokama
Kelly T. King
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

April 2, 2018

TO: Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Stacy Helm Crivello
Councilmember

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stacy Helm Crivello", is written over the printed name and title.

DATE: Wednesday, April 4, 2018

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB 2671 H.D. 1, S.D. 1, RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** this important measure. The purpose of this measure is appropriates funds to the Office of the Governor; the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the Department of Human Resources Development; and the Department of Agriculture to collaboratively develop and implement solutions to assist dislocated workers and address the overall continued availability of gainful employment on the island of Molokai.

1. Mycogen closed their Molokai operations in March affecting 82 families. This is the latest economic crisis befalling our residents over the years. First the pineapple plantations close and over the years we've endured the closure of the Sheraton Kaluakoi Resort, the loss of large scale farming that pulled up roots and moved to Oahu, then Molokai Ranch shuttered their island operations and now Mycogen.
2. When the pineapple plantations closed, the legislature responded with Act 387 SLH 1988 to provide funding for an agricultural loan program to bolster our economy by providing loans to our residents to stimulate agricultural production.
3. The various agencies of the County of Maui along with the State continue to work collaboratively to determine how best to assist our soon to be displace workers.

For the foregoing reasons, I **strongly support** this measure.

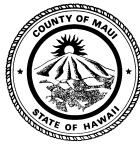
2018HB2671HD1SD1Support-EmploymentOpportunity-WAM

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

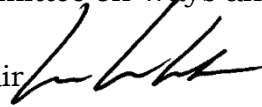
Councilmembers
Alika Atay
Elle Cochran
Don S. Guzman
Riki Hokama
Kelly T. King
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

April 3, 2018

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Mike White
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF APRIL 4, 2018; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2671, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to ensure the availability of gainful employment on the island of Molokai by appropriating funds to various agencies to collaboratively develop and implement agreed upon plans to assist displaced workers and address the continued availability of gainful employment.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. Molokai continues to have one of the highest unemployment rates in the State of Hawaii. The island has suffered from tumultuous economic downturns due to the closing of the pineapple plantations, Kaluakoi Resort, and Molokai Ranch; the relocation of large scale agricultural production to Oahu; and now the impending shutdown of Mycogen Seeds. Action must be taken to prevent an additional downturn.
2. With the impending closure of Mycogen Seeds, approximately 82 displaced workers will add to the already high unemployment rate. These funds will help mitigate impacts by supporting collaboration among various entities to provide innovative solutions.
3. It is impractical for many Molokai residents to relocate for employment and options for inter-island transportation are limited. This bill will help create opportunities for residents of the island.

For the foregoing reasons, I strongly **support** this measure.

ocs:proj:legis:18legis:18testimony:hb2671_hd1_sd1_paf18-125_jgk



Board of Directors

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

President

Alan Takemoto

In Strong Support of HB 2671, HD1, SD1 Relating to Employment Opportunity

Vice-President

Joshua Uyehara

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

April 4, 2018, 10:30 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 economy.

Directors-at-Large

Adolf Helm

Mark Stoutemyer

Dan Clegg

Gene Harrington

HCIA stands in **strong support of HB 2671, HD1, SD1**. The appropriation of funds to the Office of the Governor, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Department of Human Resources Development, and Department of Agriculture will provide displaced workers on Molokai opportunities for gainful employment on the island.

President Emeritus

Kirby Kester

Executive Director

Bennette Misalucha

The appropriation of funds, as well as the collaborative work between various state and county agencies, demonstrates government's understanding to prioritize stimulating Molokai's economy so that residents can continue to live and work on the island they call home.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Bennette Misalucha

Executive Director, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

HB-2671-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 12:09:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: