

LATE



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of **Ford Fuchigami**
Administrative Director, Office of the Governor

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
April 4, 2018
10:30 a.m., Conference Room 211

In consideration of
House Bill No. 2671, HD1, SD1
RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments supporting the intent of **House Bill 2671, HD1, SD1** provided it does not impact the priorities detailed in the Governor's Executive Budget.

This bill appropriates yet unspecified 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.

Although the Office of the Governor supports the intent of this measure, our office does not have the resources to lead this project and generate the report required in SD1. If the Legislature would like the Office of the Governor to take the lead, we would request additional funding for our office to support this initiative.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor



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

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

APRIL 4, 2018
10:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

HOUSE BILL NO. 2671 HD1 SD1
RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2671 HD1 SD1. This bill provides funds for gainful employment on the island of Molokai due to the closure of Mycogen Seeds. The Department supports this bill provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget.

This bill provides funding to support the 82 lost jobs on Molokai to various State Departments in an effort to support the employment opportunities for misplaced workers on the island. The Department supports the efforts to provide employment services for these displaced agricultural workers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LEONARD HOSHIGO
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov



April 4, 2018

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair;
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

From: Leonard Hoshijo, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. No. 2671 HD1 SD1 Relating to Employment Opportunity

HB2671 HD1SD1 proposes to appropriate funds to the Office of the Governor and the Departments of Labor and Industrial Relations, Business Economic Development and Tourism, Human Resources Development, and the Agriculture to collaborate in developing and implementing methods to assist dislocated workers and address the need for gainful employment on the island of Molokai. DLIR supports the intent of this measure provided it does not conflict with the Governor's budget priorities. DLIR defers to the Office of the Governor regarding the reporting requirements in the measure.

With the passing of this legislation and funds appropriated to the department, DLIR would provide assistance with basic educational and vocational training to better prepare affected populations on the island of Molokai for potential job opportunities. Entrepreneurial training may be included if small business opportunities are developed in collaboration with designated agencies.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

By

Nicholas Comerford

Dean, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

And

Michael Bruno

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Vice Chancellor for Research

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

LATE

HB 2671 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2671 HD1 SD1. With Mycogen leaving Moloka'i, as many as 80-90 temporary agricultural workers will lose their jobs. This further aggravates the economic plight on Moloka'i. The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) believes that with the collaboration of the diverse agencies mentioned some retraining and creative job deliverance is possible that not only will help some portion of the soon to be unemployed, but will also increase the agricultural production of the island.

While the bill is not specific as to the solutions, the immediate need for resources to support economic development is real; and retraining as well as equipment support will certainly be necessary and will not easily wait until next year. CTAHR is already engaged with Windward Community College (WCC) with WCC funding the retraining and CTAHR Extension Agents providing the farm training.

For these reasons we support the bill and are available to provide our input to determine what solutions are applicable to benefit the citizens of Moloka'i.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2671 HD1 SD1.