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Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 15, 2017  
8:40 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 455  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 455, which proposes to prohibit the department from charging agricultural producers for the costs of food safety certification activities conducted by the department. The department has concerns with this bill, for it may have unintended consequences.

This bill prohibits the department from charging an agricultural producer for the department's cost of conducting any and all food safety certification activities under title 11, HRS. This includes all fee-for-service activities performed by the department, which are related to food safety certification, and related activities **under cooperative agreements with the USDA**. The department performs USDA Good Agricultural Practices audits, in which a portion of the fees collected by the department are paid back to the USDA for audits performed. In addition, the Department performs fee-for-service USDA shell egg resident grading activities which include plant sanitation and wash water and sanitizer monitoring, all of which are related to food safety. This bill will jeopardize our existing cooperative agreements and long standing relationship with the USDA.



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Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the bill is related to the Meat Inspection Program, which the department ended in 1995 and relinquished the program back to the USDA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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**HB455**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 15, 2017 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB455**

Submitted on: 2/15/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 15, 2017 08:40AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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