

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

LATE

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS & MEANS

FEBRUARY 6, 2018
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

SENATE BILL NO. 1208 SD1 Proposed SD2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1208 Proposed SD2, which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Twin Bridge Farms, Inc. to purchase certain lands that would be in the public interest and for the public health, safety, and general welfare. The Department supports this bill.

SB1208 SD1 proposed SD2 will keep the identified agricultural lands in crop production. The Department supports preserving agricultural lands and supports increasing agricultural production for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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
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LATE

TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TUESDAY, February 06, 2018
10:00 a.m.

SENATE BILL NO. 1208 SD2
RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”). The ADC strongly supports Senate Bill No. 1208 SD2, which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Twin Bridge Farms, Inc., to purchase certain lands.

Twin Bridge Farms is an established, experienced farm operation that produces high quality products, which meet the current good agriculture practices and food safety standards. For over 20 years, Milton Agader, Twin Bridge owner, has been active in the farming community and remains committed to land stewardship and food security for Hawaii. By expanding their operation, Twin Bridge will be positioned for continued contribution to the State’s food production goals and will remain an excellent example of a good agriculture operation.

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



LATE

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February 6, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 1208, SD1, PROPOSED SD2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 211
10:00 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, 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 strongly supports SD 1208, SD1, Proposed SD2, which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Twin Bridge Farms, Inc., to purchase certain lands.

Twin Bridge Farms has shown a commitment to Hawaii agriculture and has demonstrated their capacity to grow and expand their business. This operation is a good example of agriculture acting as an economic engine to grow Hawaii's economy.

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 this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.



LATE

Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Tuesday, February 6, 2018 — 10:00 a.m. — Room 211

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 1208 SD 1, Relating to Agriculture

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

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better management of waste and fresh water. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports SB 1208 SD 1, which provides a \$9 million special purpose revenue bond to Twin Bridge Farms Inc. to purchase land, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

Quality agricultural land is one of the main prerequisites for local food production. This funding would help Twin Bridge Farms Inc. to acquire farmland for its operations. Twin Bridge Farms Inc. specializes in asparagus, sweet potatoes, potatoes, sweet onions, vine ripened tomatoes, grape tomatoes, and organic produce. To encourage increased local food production in Hawai'i, we need to continuously support our local farmers and ranchers.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i