

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**DOUGLAS S. CHIN**  
Lt. Governor



**SCOTT E. ENRIGHT**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT**  
**CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**MARCH 14, 2018**  
**8:30 A.M.**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2556 SD1**  
**RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thanks for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2556 SD1. This bill establishes a special fund within the department of agriculture to deposit and expend funds necessary for the operation of the industrial hemp pilot program. The Department strongly supports this bill.

In running the industrial hemp program, the Department will collect application fees, license fees, inspection fees, and fines. The Department hopes that the industrial hemp program eventually becomes self-sustaining, and towards that end finds it to be prudent to deposit money generated by the program into a fund dedicated to the program and its expenses. A special fund would allow program expenditures to be limited to and made according to the funds generated by the program, and not rely on general funds. This will help the Department assess and adjust the appropriateness of fees necessary for the program to be self-sustaining should the program become permanent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**SB-2556-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2018 3:11:32 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We continue to be in STRONG SUPPORT for this bill. Mahalo.

**SB-2556-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 10:35:35 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 312

RE: **Testimony in Support** of **SB2846 SD2**, RELATING TO THE  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

To the Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Chair; the Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on

Agriculture:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SB2556 SD1**, relating Industrial Hemp Program; and Industrial Hemp Special Fund.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **SB2556 SD1** and support its passage.

**SB2556 SD1**, is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it establishes a special fund within the department of agriculture to deposit fees and expend funds necessary for the industrial hemp pilot program. Specifically, the DPH Platform states, "Agriculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened. We likewise support publicly funding research and development for agricultural diversification and value-added products." (Platform of the DPH, P. 2, Lines 76-77, 106-107, (2016)).

Given that **SB2556 SD1** establishes a special fund within the department of agriculture to deposit fees and expend funds necessary for the industrial hemp pilot program, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889



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March 14, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2556, SD 1**  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 312  
8:30 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 interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SB 2556, SD 1**, which establishes a special fund within the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to deposit funds necessary for the industrial hemp pilot program.

There is significant interest in growing industrial hemp for various end products in Hawaii. The development of such a program, including the current regulatory requirements to implement the program by the Department will require funds. This measure will assist with this need.

We respectfully request your support of this measure for the development of an alternative crop for Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

**SB-2556-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 9:23:45 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2556-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 8:09:20 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2018 8:30:00 AM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Springer Kaye	Big Island Invasive Species Committee	Support	No

Comments:

BIISC supports this bill. There is significant interest among Hawaii Island farmers in growing hemp for a variety of purposes. There is also significant acreage of abandoned or underutilized agricultural land in the process of being overtaken by albizia forest. Some of the albizia forests that were essentially flattened during Tropical Storm Iselle were abandoned sugar cane lands that could be used for agriculture again. In this same region, the growing cycles of papaya and hemp are a perfect complement, so not only could hemp support new industries and HDOA programming, it could bolster the income stream of existing farms, ensuring they remain solvent and the land remains under active management. For these reasons, we agree with the purpose of this bill.

**SB-2556-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 10:09:13 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2018 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	Yes

Comments:

In STRONG SUPPORT.