

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
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

**FEBRUARY 21, 2018
10:08 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

**SENATE BILL NO. 3087 SD1
RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3087 SD1, which appropriates funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) to identify factors that affect the quality of local papaya and to develop and establish protocols to enhance the marketability of the Hawaiian papaya. The Department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget.

The Department believes that the ADC has the ability to hedge private sector investments to develop technologies or standards and protocols to support the marketability expansion of Hawaiian papaya. Providing post-harvesting and processing technologies will directly support the papaya industry in the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 20, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

Re: SB 3087, SD 1 Relating to Assisting the Papaya Industry
Hearing Date: 02/21/18 – 10:08 am; Conference Room 211

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB 3087, SD1.

The papaya industry has been of great value in Hawai'i County, particularly in the Puna District. It is our #3 edible product, behind only coffee and macadamia nuts.

But papaya has faced its share of economic problems. Considerable damage was done by Hurricane Iselle, and production is slowly recovering. Your assistance in funding research that could improve the product and enhance its commercial viability would certainly be welcomed.

Part of the focus of SB 3087, as originally written, was on Solo papaya. My experts tell me that the production of the Solo variety (non-GMO) has been greatly reduced because of the Papaya Ringspot Virus. The Rainbow and SunUp varieties are now the major ones (both are genetically modified). So to maximize the benefit of SB 3087, it was appropriate to direct the research to the industry as a whole.

I hope you will move forward with SB 3087, SD 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim
Mayor, County of Hawai'i

SB-3087-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2018 3:56:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

THE SENATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

10:08 a.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 211

RE: Testimony in Support of 3087 SD1 RELATING TO AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

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

Good morning. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No. 3087 SD1 relating to Agribusiness Development Corporation and the marketability of Hawaiian papayas.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 3087 SD1 and supports its passage.

Senate Bill No.3087 SD1 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it appropriates funds to the agribusiness development corporation to identify factors that affect the quality of local papaya and to develop and establish protocols to enhance the marketability of Hawaiian papayas.

The DPH Platform states that "[a]griculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened. Sufficient prime agricultural lands must be maintained for the health, economic well-being and sustenance of the people. We believe in an integrated approach to agricultural innovation and sustainability.

This approach includes but is not limited to, the adoption of the native Hawaiian concept of ahupua'a, an integrated approach to land management. This could also include the development of economic, land and ocean use policies that foster sustainable crops both for local consumption and for export, policies to foster agriculture-related infrastructure at shipping points, and increased inspection to protect against invasive species and to encourage reduced holding times. (Platform of the DPH, P.2, Lines 76-78, 82-86 (2016)).

As an island state, securing affordable food for all is a priority. We support healthy, sustainable, and diversified local food production, and "Buy Local" strategies to assure greater food security and food safety. (Platform of the DPH, P.2, Lines 97-99 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No.3087 SD1 appropriates funds to the agribusiness development corporation to identify factors that affect the quality of local papaya and to develop and establish protocols to enhance the marketability of Hawaiian papayas, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities 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