

SB 352

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
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 AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

**FEBRUARY 3, 2017
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 352
RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURAL LOAN REVOLVING FUND**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 352, which appropriates fund into the agricultural loan revolving fund. The Department strongly supports this bill.

This bill seeks to expand the Department's Agricultural Loan Program by providing additional funds to support the start-up capital in generating the State's next generation of farmers. The Galbraith lands on Oahu are now becoming available for production agriculture and farmers will be able to take advantage of these lands to fully mechanize production, utilize new technologies and achieve greater economies of scale. Access to affordable capital will be vital in helping these new operations to develop.

The department believes the agricultural loan program is the best avenue to provide access to affordable capital, as clients will not borrow more than they need, repayment of principal can assist future borrowers, and interest collected helps pay for the program. Investing funds into the program will help to preserve and expand agriculture production throughout the islands, enabling the replacement of food imports and increasing food sustainability for the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 10:22 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: dale@hicattle.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB352 on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM*

SB352

Submitted on: 1/28/2017

Testimony for AEN on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 3, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

TESTIMONY ON SB 352
RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURAL LOAN REVOLVING FUND

Room 224
1:15 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, 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.

HFB supports SB 352, which moneys to and from the agricultural loan revolving fund.

Food security, food self-sufficiency and growing agriculture are popular concepts seen in many of the measures before the legislature this year. This Legislative Session, there have been many bills introduced that support of Hawaii's Agricultural Industry. This year, HFB has introduced a package of measures addressing the real needs of our farmers and ranchers all associated with increasing farm and ranch viability. These include infrastructure needs, agricultural education, Food Safety, invasive species control, and regulatory assistance.

This measure supports the growth of Hawaii's agricultural industry by providing additional funding to HDOA to assist Hawaii in growing its agriculture sector.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 4:26 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: alan@prloffice.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB352 on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM*

SB352

Submitted on: 1/29/2017

Testimony for AEN on Feb 3, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

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