

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

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

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**APRIL 11, 2018  
2:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 164 SD1  
REQUESTING THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE TO SUBMIT A RECOMMENDED  
DEFINITION OF "AGRICULTURAL HUB" OR "FOOD HUB" AND, IN  
COLLABORATION WITH THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,  
IDENTIFY AREAS IN THE STATE THAT ARE POTENTIALLY SUITABLE TO BECOME  
AGRICULTURAL HUBS OR FOOD HUBS.**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 164 SD1 that has two requests. The first request is for the Board of Agriculture to submit a recommended definition of "agricultural hub" or "food hub" to the 2019 Legislature. The definition should include language that reflects that the hub is a centrally-located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and marketing of locally produced food products. The second request is that the Board of Agriculture and the Agribusiness Development Corporation identify areas in the State that are potentially suitable to become agricultural hubs or food hubs. The Department of Agriculture offers comments.

Section 205-2(d)(15)(E) already defines a "food hub" as: "a facility that may contain a commercial kitchen and provides for the storage, processing, distribution, and sale of agricultural products grown in Hawaii and value-added products that were produced using agricultural products grown in Hawaii." This facility is permitted throughout the State Agricultural District.



As for the location of potential “food hubs” throughout the State, the “Statewide Agricultural Land Use Baseline (2015)” has identified the Whitmore complex as a “food processing hub” (page 57) for local farmers such as those that may establish agricultural operations on the 1,200 acres of former Galbraith Estate agricultural land in Central Oahu now owned by the Agribusiness Development Corporation. We are also aware of a project by Aloun Farms called the Ohana Farm Parcels, a 427-acre condominium property regime just north of Whitmore Village. Farms on this property may benefit from a “coordinating entrepreneur” who will also offer a centralized processing, storage, and distribution facility on site.

Identifying the location of other potential food hub sites throughout the State may need to consider the amount of agricultural production needed to sustain the core operations of a food hub facility. Existing farmers will have to be convinced that entering into a relationship with a food hub is advantageous enough to cause them to no longer sell their products through existing channels. In the case of new agricultural lands being offered to agricultural operations as is the case with the “Whitmore Project,” perhaps a modular approach to food hub development would reduce the risk of developing a food hub with over-capacity for the throughput available. In either case, private and public investors will expect their return-on-investment to meet their expectations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

# North Shore EVP

*A Community Economic Vitality Partnership*

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Waialua, HI 96791-9501  
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www.NSEVP.org

April 10, 2018

Testimony in FAVOR of Senate Concurrent Resolution 164

Aloha Chair CREAGAN, Vice-chair DECOITE, and Committee Members,

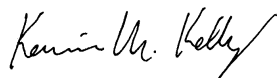
The development of food hubs in Hawaii is critical to increasing the availability of locally produced food. The vast majority of farms in our state are small farms whose production is generally too small and too inconsistent to serve most retail, institutional and restaurant markets. As a result these farmers only grow what they know they can sell and are then relegated to farmers markets and roadside stands to sell their goods.

North Shore EVP is addressing this issue in two ways. First we have initiated a USDA GAP certification program for small farms, the first of its kind in Hawaii. We know that large buyers of local produce will soon require food safety certification and compliance with the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA). The process takes about a year to complete, but without food safety certified farmers and a critical mass of participating farms, a food hub is of little use.

Second, we are in the process of planning a food hub to serve North Shore farmers from Waikane to Waialua. The facility will buy directly from food safety certified farmers and will aggregate, clean, pack, market and distribute produce from the region. We expect to have enough certified farms within a couple of years to open the facility and are looking forward to providing small farms access to currently inaccessible large food markets across the state.

North Shore EVP supports the state's participation in the development of food hubs however we urge your committee and the entire legislature to keep a focus on supporting small farms in their efforts to stay in compliance with new food safety regulations. Without certified farms, food hubs will not succeed.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,



Kevin Kelly  
President

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 12:06:51 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:32:41 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Williams	Pueo Farm	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 5:26:45 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 9:31:18 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
irene plunkett	HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

I think its very important that we make land available to grow food and help Hawai'i to becoming food secure..its a small step foward, nontheless a very critical move forward.

I strongly support Bill SCR164, Mahalo Irene

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:03:00 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:17:49 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Franz Weber	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:21:00 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support!

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:31:43 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Raphiell Nolin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:32:06 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:34:51 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

ag/food hub defined is needed

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 1:36:57 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 2:04:38 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr. Jana Bogs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 2:26:45 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Edward Aloï	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**LATE**

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 3:01:54 PM  
Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Briana Hurley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 3:33:13 PM  
Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Mohr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a small farmer I know first hand how expensive it is to build out wash-and-pack facilities or commercial kitchens that could be used for value-added products. For family run farms these costs are often prohibitive despite the growing demand for local, hand-crafted products.

Perhaps the Board of Agriculture and Agribusiness Development Corporation could look into existing, underutilized facilities in district parks when identifying areas in the State that are potentially suitable to become agricultural hubs or food hubs.

Aloha

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 4:28:05 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
marcy cayton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 4:38:20 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steven Forman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 4:40:08 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David S. Case	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

If implemented by the Board of Agriculture, it seems like SCR164 would bring some needed clarity to the concept of a "Agricultural" or "Food" Hub. The Board represents diverse agricultural interests and would therefore be able to incorporate various perspectives into the purpose and function of such "Hubs". This should include for example, consideration for Hub access to both commercial and non-commercial food producers as well as access to value added processing for commercial and non-commercial purposes, such as washing, cooking, preservation and packaging of food.

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 6:06:43 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support our local farmers! Support food Hubs Please!

Aloha!

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 6:40:40 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harriet Witt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

If we want food sovereignty, we need this bill!

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 7:48:07 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 8:02:13 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
petra zoeller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 9:55:27 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helmut Klauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 10:57:48 PM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Phyllis Robinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Identifying areas in the state that are suitable for food helps is essential for increasing our local food production. On Maui, in Haiku for example, we are envisioning a food hub that will contain a food processing facility/commercial kitchen, a retail store, restaurant, and permanent farmers market surrounded by farmland, near schools for field trips and located with frontage on the Hana Hwy near Jaws.

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 3:59:46 AM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-164-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 9:22:14 AM

Testimony for AGR on 4/11/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Guzman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of SCR 164. I provide this testimony as an individual member of the Maui County Council. I strongly encourage the Board of Agriculture to develop a recommended definition of "agricultural hub" or "food hub". I support identifying locations throughout the state that are potentially suitable for use as agricultural hubs or food hubs. Developing this infrastructure will enable the growth of diversified agriculture in the state and will strengthen our regional and local food systems by providing farmers with facilities for storage, processing and marketing of locally grown food products. I strongly urge you to pass SCR 164.