

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**DOUGLAS S. CHIN**  
Lt. Governor



**JAMES J. NAKATANI**  
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
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**TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND TECHNOLOGY**

Friday, March 23, 2018  
1:15 p.m.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 123  
REQUESTING THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE TO DEFINE "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.**

Chairpersons Gabbard and Wakai and Members of the Committees:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation ("ADC"). The ADC supports Senate Resolution 123 which requests the Board of Agriculture to define "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.

In order for diversified agriculture to grow in the State, it is important to establish the necessary infrastructure for packing and distribution that one farmer cannot sustain alone and reestablish agricultural hubs that were lost in the decline of the sugarcane and pineapple industries. ADC's projects in the Whitmore Village area on Oahu highlight this potential and illustrate the complexity in implementing such a project. ADC looks forward to collaborating with the Board of Agriculture on defining agricultural and food hubs and identifying reasonable locations for implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**SR-123**

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 9:17:50 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/23/2018 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments: