

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Acting Chairperson
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TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 13, 2019
8:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 1562
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OPERATING BUDGET

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 1562. This bill appropriates funds for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture. The Department strongly supports this bill.

The budget items contained in the bill represent the Department's needs that are above the current budget base. These additions address matters such as the implementation of the biosecurity program, supplementing the agricultural loan revolving fund, and providing funds for food safety grants.

We realize the budget will undergo further iterations before reaching its final form and look forward to working with the committees to craft a budget that is amenable to all of those involved.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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February 13, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1562
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director 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.

Hawaii Farm Bureau **strongly supports HB 1562**, which appropriates funds for operating expenses of the department of agriculture DOA.

The success of the agriculture industry is dependent on the resources provided to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. The department provides resources to agriculture loans, grants, and certification programs, just the name a few. This bill would enable the department to continue their efforts in supporting and growing the agriculture industry.

HFB respectfully requests your strong support of this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.

HB-1562

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 8:57:43 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/13/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

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

Comments:

HB-1562

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 5:43:59 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/13/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William W. Steiner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Pacific Agricultural Land Management Systems and Hawaii Oil Seed Producers, seperate Agricultural companies, support higher funding for HDOA programs. Hawaii public needs food security and without additional funding to operate building and supporting new programs there will only be a further deterioration of food sustainability in the Islands.