

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

JOSH GREEN  
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Acting Chairperson  
Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND HEALTH

FEBRUARY 6, 2019  
8:35 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 869  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons Creagan and Mizuno and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 869, which enacts produce safety rules in accordance with the federal Food and Drug Administration Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption. The Department supports the intent of this bill.

The department has been in discussions with the Department of Health, who partners with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inquiring on their interest of performing the FSMA audits on behalf of the FDA. The Department of Health expressed no interest on performing on-farm audits and has no objections to having the Department of Agriculture conducting the audits. We are still awaiting the FDA to offer an agreement/contract and funding with the Department of Agriculture.

The department is requesting the following amendment to section 2, page 18, line 8 to 10:

**“§145-I Rulemaking authority.** The board of agriculture [~~shall~~] may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 necessary to carry out the purposes of this part.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**HB-869**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 8:26:19 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/6/2019 8:35:00 AM

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

Comments:



**LATE**

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Aloha and good morning Honorable Chairman Creagan, Vice-Chair DeCoite and members of the Committee,

This issue is of vital importance to our farming ohana. Paying third party certifiers to inspect our farms is a cost producers should not and cannot bear.

Farm Maui LLC strongly supports this measure, mahalo for considering it.

Respectfully submitted,

Simon Russell  
Managing member  
Farm Maui LLC