

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**MARCH 13, 2019
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 491 SD2
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill 491 SD2. This bill appropriates funds for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture. The Department supports this bill and offers comments.

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, and carrying out the duties mandated in Act 45, SLH 2017 regarding pesticides regulation. We also ask the committee to consider the Department's other operating requests as listed in HB 491 SD1.

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



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2019
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 491, SENATE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Senate Bill 491, Senate Draft 2 proposes to provide appropriations for operating expenses at the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA), including biosecurity programs. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.**

The Department collaborates with HDOA on invasive species and biosecurity issues as described in the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP). The HIBP identifies the need for additional resources at HDOA for activities related to the inspection of imported goods. In particular, the Department notes the importance of the invasive species specialist positions described in SECTION TWO as being needed to support the HIBP. These specialists would provide expertise and capacity necessary to appropriately assess incoming cargo for the risk of introducing invasive species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



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March 13, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 491, SD2
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha 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 SB 491, SD2**, 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.

SB-491-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 5:40:25 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/13/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-491-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:53:53 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/13/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support agriculture by passing an adequate budget for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

The department not only provides support and resources to farmers and ranchers, but also works hard to stem the relentless influx of invasive species that threaten to destroy Hawaii's natural resources and even our way of life. In addition, HDOA needs funding support to enforce the myriad laws and regulations under its purview.

Thank you for your consideration of HDOA's request for supplemental budgetary needs.