

SB 491

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Wednesday, January 30, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

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

Senate Bill 491 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.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



DENISE ALBANO
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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**TESTIMONY OF DENISE ALBANO
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

**JANUARY 30, 2019
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 491
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill 491. This bill appropriates funds for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture. The Department 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 would like to request an additional five line items for AGR 132, AGR 141, an AGR171 (see attached).

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.



AGR 171 - Agricultural Development and Marketing

ADD FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS

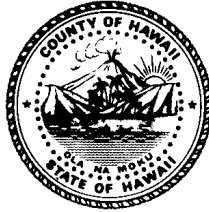
APPROPRIATIONS			
FISCAL	M	FISCAL	M
YEAR	O	YEAR	O
2019-2020	F	2020-2021	F
\$240,000 (A)		\$240,000 (A)	

AGR 171 - Agricultural Development and Marketing

ADD FUNDS FOR MAINTENANCE OF CONTRACT DATABASE SYSTEM

APPROPRIATIONS			
FISCAL	M	FISCAL	M
YEAR	O	YEAR	O
2019-2020	F	2020-2021	F
\$20,000 (A)		\$20,000 (A)	

County of Hawai'i
Council District 9 -
North and South Kohala



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Chair: Committee on Agriculture,
Water, Energy, and Environmental
Management

Vice Chair: Committee on Finance

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III
HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 9
25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

January 28, 2019

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Honorable Senator Russel E. Ruderman, Vice Chair
Submission via online testimony

RE: **Support of SB 491**
Hearing Date/Time: January 30, 2019 at 1:15 p.m.

Dear Senators:

As the Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Water, Energy, and Environmental Management for the Hawai'i County Council, I thank you for the opportunity to submit **testimony in SUPPORT of SB 491**. It is important that funds are appropriated for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture.

Please feel free to contact me should you need to discuss my position and knowledge of this matter further.

Sincerely,

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III
Hawai'i County Council, District 9



HAWAI'I
CENTER FOR
FOOD SAFETY

**Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Hawai'i Center for Food Safety supports: SB491**

Dea Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Ruderman, and members of the committee,

My name is Autumn Ness and I am the Co-Director of the Center for Food Safety Hawai'i Program. CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on supporting the increase of sustainable local food production, and increasing public transparency in food production. We have over 1 million farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i.

I am writing in support of SB 491, specifically the section that appropriates \$97,896 to fund an Environmental Health Specialist position to support the Pesticides Branch and meet the requirements of Act 45, which passed both the House and the Senate unanimously in 2018.

Act 45 was passed after years of work on behalf of our most vulnerable populations who are concerned about exposure to Restricted Use Pesticides. The components of Act 45 (public disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide use, the temporary permits required for Chlorpyrifos use through 2022 when it becomes a prohibited pesticide, and the implementation of the drift monitoring study) will require staff time and resources to implement.

These components were widely supported by residents across Hawai'i, and when implemented, will have a huge positive cumulative effect on reducing pesticide exposure for our keiki, and better understanding pesticide use and exposure in our communities.

Mahalo nui loa for your support of SB 491.

Autumn Ness, Co-Director
Center for Food Safety, Hawai'i Program

Donald E. Heacock
Kaua'i Organic AgroecoSystems (KOA)
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29 January 2019

To: Senators Mike Gabbard and Russel Ruderman and AEN Committee Members
Senators Inouye, Kanuha
Fm: Don Heacock, Owner/Operator of KOA
cc. Senator Ron Kouchi

Subject: Strong support for SB 451 "Relating to Dairy Producers"

Dear Senators,

I strongly support SB451 because it will allow consumers access to unpasteurized milk via herdshare agreements with milk producers in Hawaii.

Unpasteurized, nutritious and healthful "real milk" contains beneficial digestive enzymes, beneficial probiotics, is high in vitamins C, B12, B6 and D. Pasteurization denatures these enzymes, destroys the vitamins, promotes the growth of pathogens, and is associated with human allergies, tooth decay, colic in infants, growth problems in children, osteoporosis, arthritis, heart disease and cancer.

Scientific, peer-reviewed, studies show that children fed raw milk have more resistance to tuberculosis than children fed pasteurized milk (Lancet, p 1142, 5/8/37; that raw milk is very effective in preventing scurvy and protecting against flu, diphtheria and pneumonia (Am. J. Dis. Child., Nov.2017); that raw milk prevents tooth decay, even in children who eat large amounts of sugar (Lancet, p 1142, 5/8/37); that raw milk is better than pasteurized milk in promoting growth and calcium absorption (Ohio Agric. Exper. Station Bull. 518, p 8, 1/33; that a substance present in raw cream (but absent in pasteurized cream) prevents joint stiffness and the pain of arthritis (Ann. Rev. Biochemistry, 18: 435, 1944); and that children who drink raw milk have fewer allergenic skin problems and far less asthma than do children who drink pasteurized milk (Lancet 2001, p 358; 1933, p. 1129).

Whitehead and Lake (2018) show that since 2005 there has been a 74% decline in unpasteurized (raw) milk associated illnesses, while at the same time there has been a 357% increase in raw milk producers and a significant increase in legal raw milk sales nationwide. Much of this is believed to be a result of the work of the Raw Milk Institute's (RMI's) Dairy Farmer Training, and their development of "Common Standards" (Attached below)

Finally, I recommend the following amendments to SB 451:

1. On p.3, line 13 and 14, amend to read: "Dairy animal" includes but is not limited to cows, goats, sheep and water buffalo.
2. P. 4, lines 1 and 2, include in definition of "Unpasteurised milk products" the word cheese.
3. Include language into SB 451 that adopts the "Common Standards" (Attached below) for assuring the safety and quality of raw milk , and the training of raw milk producers, which was developed by the Raw Milk Institute (rawmilk institute.com) in California.

Mahalo for this opportunity to comment on this important. Please pass SB451 with these recommended amendments.

Aloha no e malama pono,

Don Heacock, KOA Owner/Manager

Attached: "Common Standards" for safe and healthy raw milk



Common Standards

Mission

"The mission of the Raw Milk Institute is to improve human health and the immune system by training and mentoring farmers; educating consumers; establishing national raw milk guidelines; outreach to farmers, consumers, regulators, universities, the media, and other groups; listing producers, and supporting research."

There are three fundamental components to the Raw Milk Institute farmer mentoring program:

- Common Standards** that all *Listed* farmers follow (

Risk Analysis and Management Program (RAMP), food safety program specific and appropriate to farm (size (

Training and Education (

The following Common Standards are guidelines used by dairy farmers in the production of raw milk. All farmers *Listed* with Raw Milk Institute make every effort to achieve these Common Standards with transparency and integrity.

Common Standards for *Listed* Raw Milk farmers:

1. Have a Risk Analysis and Management Plan (RAMP) for raw milk production
2. Raw Milk shall not contain zoonotic pathogens including:
Salmonella spp., *E. coli* 0157:H7, *Campylobacter spp.*, and *Listeria monocytogenes*.
 - a. Testing and testing frequency will depend on each farmers individual RAMP
3. Test for coliform bacteria*
 - a. Testing frequency will depend on each farmers individual RAMP
 - b. Target: a rolling three- month average of less than 10 coliforms per ml raw milk.
4. Test for Standard Plate Count (SPC)
 - a. Testing frequency will depend on each farmers individual RAMP
 - b. Target: a rolling three-month average of less than 5,000 per ml raw milk.

5. Sell raw milk for direct human consumption only from their own farm
 - a. Commingling of raw milk from other dairies is not permitted.
6. Provide documentation and assurance that herds are tuberculosis (TB) free and tested one time per year OR meet local TB requirements.
7. Provide documentation or assurance that herds are brucellosis free.

RAMP Food Safety Plan (Risk Analysis and Management Program)

* Bactoscan or other equivalent testing methods are also approved

All *Listed* farmers have a basic food safety plan- a **RAMP**- that assists them in the achievement of the Raw Milk Institute’s Common Standards. With technical assistance provided by RAWMI, each *Listed* farmer develops their own specific RAMP with size appropriate frequency of monitoring, sampling and testing. This comprehensive plan identifies potential risks that are present at the farm. Management practices are set up to reduce, manage, or mitigate those potential risks.

**Individual RAMPs include:
for the following risks:**

Risk assessment a

1. Animal introduction onto farm (transportation and trade risks)
 - a. New animal risk introduction and risk mitigation
 - i. Health screening animals for potential bacterial hazards
 - ii. Segregating animals introduced into the herd
2. Milk handling and management
 - a. Training of milking team and milking protocols
 - b. Protection and security of raw milk after milking is complete.

- c. Cleaning protocols and documentation
- 3. Environmental sources
 - a. Water sources
 - b. Water administration systems
 - c. Manure management
 - d. Bedding management
 - e. Wild animals/rodents
 - f. Land and soil issues
 - g. Weather
- 4. Feed sources
 - a. Purchased feed
 - b. Silage
 - c. Water feeder management
- 5. Human factors
 - a. Health of milking team
 - b. Risk introduction by people
- 6. Nutritional factors
 - a. Nutritional management of the cow
 - b. Nutritional plan for reduction of pathogen development or shedding in manure.

Procedures, protocols, documentation

7. Testing procedures for indicator bacteria including: *Coliforms* and *SPC*
8. Testing procedures (if utilized in specific RAMP) for potential zoonotic bacteria including *Salmonella*, *Listeria*, *Campylobacter* and *E. coli O157:H7*.
9. Checklists that document annual, monthly, weekly and daily management practices.
10. Protocols for action steps in the event of substandard results.

Additional RAWMI Training:

1. Farm bio-security – how to protect your herd
2. Know your enemy- basic microbiology, bacteria, the good and the bad
3. Preventive herd health medicine
4. Consumer education and outreach
5. Media management and communication skills
6. Recall and critical incident management.

* Bactoscan or other equivalent testing methods are also approved



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January 30, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 491
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Room 224
1:15 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, 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**, 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

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:50:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments: