



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lieutenant Governor

MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

LAND USE COMMISSION
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
State of Hawai'i

DANIEL ORODENKER
Executive Officer

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Planner

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Planner

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Chief Clerk/Planner

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Statement of
Daniel E. Orodenker
Executive Officer
Land Use Commission
Before the
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Friday February 1, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

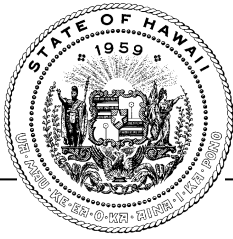
In consideration of
SB 832
RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Chair Kahele; Vice Chair Keith-Agaran; and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

The Land Use Commission supports SB 832 that would provide funds for grants-in-aid to the counties for the identification and mapping of important agricultural lands (IAL).

The IAL identification and mapping process for the counties as set out in Section 205-47, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) requires significant public involvement to include coordination with a broad range of stakeholders, public meetings, and citizen advisory groups. Adequate funding to complete this process could result in a quality product supported by a broad range of stakeholders.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
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Statement of
RODNEY FUNAKOSHI
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Friday, February 1, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
SB 832
RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 832, provided the appropriations do not adversely impact the Administration's budget priorities. SB 832 would appropriate funds for grants-in-aid to the counties for the identification and mapping of agricultural lands for designation as important agricultural lands (IAL) by the State Land Use Commission (LUC), pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 205-47.

Funding would facilitate completion of the county IAL mapping process and possibly accelerate the timeframe for submittal of county petitions for IAL to the LUC—with subsequent availability of agricultural incentives to farmers on lands designated as IAL. We note that the County of Kauai has completed their mapping studies and does not anticipate petitioning for the designation of additional IAL lands beyond what has already been designated under the voluntary petition process. The City and County of Honolulu has also completed its identification and mapping process, and maps of proposed IAL have been submitted to the Honolulu City Council for deliberation and action.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Acting Chairperson
Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

FEBRUARY 1, 2019
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

SENATE BILL NO. 832
RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Chairperson Kahele and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 832, which appropriates funds to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and expends as grants-in-aid to the counties for assistance with identifying and mapping Important Agricultural Lands pursuant to Section 205-47. The Department supports this measure.

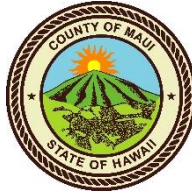
SB 832 will help to move forward the Important Agricultural Lands Law with respect to completion of the county mapping process, approval by the county councils, and subsequent consideration for designation by the Land Use Commission. Most importantly, this will allow the owners and farmers of these lands to have access to the State and county IAL Incentives in support of agricultural production.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor

MICHELE N. CHOUREAU MCLEAN, AICP
Acting Director



COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

January 30, 2019

TESTIMONY OF MICHELE CHOUREAU MCLEAN, AICP
ACTING DIRECTOR, PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Friday, February 1, 2019, 1:15 P.M.
Conference Room 229

SB832 RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of SB832.

The purpose of this measure is to implement Act 183, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, in accordance with the State's constitutional duty to protect important agricultural lands, by providing funds to the counties for the identification and mapping of important agricultural lands. Maui County's three inhabited islands have a majority of their land designated as agricultural land. The Department of Planning has been seeking ways to implement the requirements of the Act without adequate funding, and has been unable to do so.

For these reasons I **support** the passage of SB832.

Sincerely,

Michele Chouteau McLean, AICP
Acting Director, Department of Planning
County of Maui

LATE

SB-832

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 8:55:28 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura	Testifying for Maui County Council	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura from the County of Maui.

I support SB 832, Relating to Important Agriculture Lands. The majority of our lands are designated agriculture and with our growing population, developers are buying agriculture lands and subdividing parcels into smaller lots for residential and some farming.

Maui recently saw 41,000 acres of agriculture land purchaed from A&B, HC&S land to a company called Mahi Pono who will keep this land in agriculture. 27,000 acres of this land has already been designated as Impotant Agiculture Lands from HC&S and we would like to see the remaining balance of land be in IAL desingation.

We appreciate the State Legislature providng funding to do the important IAL mapping process.

We support keeping agriculture lands in agriculture designation in perpetuity.

Thank you.

Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura, Upcountry

Maui County

808 270-7939 b

808 870-8047 C



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
Friday, February 1, 2019 — 1:15 p.m. — Room 229

Ulupono Initiative Supports SB 832, Relating to Important Agricultural Lands

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better management of waste and fresh water. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand-in-hand.

Ulupono supports SB 832, which appropriates funds as grants-in-aid to the counties for assistance with identifying and mapping Important Agricultural Lands, because it aligns with our goal to increase local food production.

The Important Agricultural Lands designation is one of the policies that help to keep agricultural land in agriculture, especially as development grows. This funding will help counties to designate key lands for agriculture. Once designated, agricultural operations on Important Agricultural Lands are eligible for favorable benefits and regulations. Greater clarity on Important Agricultural Lands will help provide expanded opportunities for farmers and ranchers to obtain access to high-quality land at affordable rates by protecting such land from development. The cost and availability of high-quality land is a critical requirement for the success of local agriculture.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become increasingly complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCL)

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 1, 2019

TIME: 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: SB 832 Relating to Important Agricultural Lands

Aloha mai kakou Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP) of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 832 relating to Important Agricultural Lands.**

SB 832 appropriates funds as grants-in-aid to the counties for assistance with identifying and mapping important agricultural lands.

DPH supports the designation of Important Agricultural Lands as a step towards preserving high-grade productive lands for current and future needs. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018), p. 9, ln. 40-41.*

For the foregoing reasons, i.e., the designation of Important Agricultural Lands is a step towards preserving high-grade productive lands for current and future needs, OCCLP supports SB 832 and urges its passage out of the Committee on Safety, Veterans & Military Affairs.

Mahalo nui loa

Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities
of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

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February 1, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

TESTIMONY ON SB 832
RELATING TO FARMS

Room 224
1:15 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, 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 interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SB 832, which appropriates funds as grants-in-aid to the counties for assistance with identifying and mapping important agricultural lands.

Since the enactment of the Constitutional Mandate in 1978 to preserve and protect Important Agricultural Lands (IAL), HFBB came before the Legislature every year with proposals of how this measure could be implemented. It was only in 2005 when the standards and criteria to designate IAL was finally passed and in 2008 when the incentives were passed. It was a long road.

We were pleased when the first lands were designated by Alexander and Baldwin in 2009 totaling nearly 4000 acres in Kauai. Today, we have over 100,000 acres that were voluntarily designated by landowners across the State. This year marks the ten-year anniversary since the passage of the State incentives in 2008. Counties are responsible for developing incentives, creating maps which after a due process, will be submitted to the LUC for designation as IAL. Act 183 (SLH 2005) states that the counties will work on the identification and mapping of important agricultural lands via funding from the State disbursed through the Land Use Commission. Most Counties have yet to receive funding and in turn, the county IAL identification and mapping have not progressed as anticipated.

HFB supports this measure implementing Act 183 by providing the funds necessary to identify and map IAL in each county.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



January 31, 2019

LATE

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Comments in Support of SB 832, Relating to Important Agricultural Lands (IAL) (Appropriates funds as grants-in-aid to the counties for assistance with identifying and mapping IAL.)

Friday, February 1, 2019, 1:15 p.m., in Conference Room 229

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of SB 832** and of the various agricultural stakeholder groups who defend the goals of viable agricultural operations and the conservation and protection of agriculture, including IAL in Hawaii. The bill conveys the need for collaboration amongst diverse sectors of the community - business, government, and agricultural stakeholders - and the importance for them to work together cooperatively to identify and map potential IAL to improve the economic viability of the State's agricultural industry.

SB 832. The purpose of this bill is to fully implement Act 183, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, and Act 233, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, in accordance with the State's constitutional duty to protect IAL by providing funds to the counties to identify and map IAL.

LURF's Position. LURF believes that the proposed appropriation of general revenues as grant-in-aid to the counties for the identification and mapping of IAL pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 205-47 is consistent with the underlying intent and objectives of the IAL laws (HRS Sections 205-41 to 52), which were enacted to fulfill the mandate in Article XI, Section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution, "to conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands."

As noted in HRS Section 205-41, the intent of Act 183 (2005) was to develop agricultural incentive programs to promote agricultural viability, sustained growth of the agricultural industry, and the long-term use and protection of important agricultural lands for agricultural use.

Passage of the long-awaited IAL legislation would be pointless without complete implementation of the law which is intended to provide programs, incentives and inducements, and which requires the cooperation and support of agricultural, business, and educational organizations, as well as government agencies in order to become fully-realized.

LURF members include private property owners, farmers and ranchers who own, maintain, and engage in agricultural enterprises, and who consider the identification and assured availability of IAL critical to the continued conduct of their operations and to help sustain and preserve their businesses into the future. Regrettably, interest in agriculture continues to decline in Hawaii, however, LURF believes efforts to fully implement and preserve IAL would greatly help to perpetuate the agricultural industry in this State by providing the industry with support through incentive programs including grants and other funding and training assistance; favorable infrastructure and permit requirements; and farm and business education assistance to provide knowledge and inspire interest in agriculture and educate youth about the importance of increasing Hawaii's long-term resilience and sustainability.

As the identification and mapping of IAL and implementation of Act 183, SLH 2005 will significantly help to promote economically viable agriculture and food self-sufficiency in Hawaii, LURF is in **support of SB 832**.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this measure.