

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**JOSH GREEN**  
Lt. Governor



**JAMES J. NAKATANI**  
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND**  
**ENVIRONMENT**

Wednesday, May 13, 2019  
1:00 PM

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, gubernatorial nominee, WARREN WATANABE, for a term to expire 06-30-2024

Aloha Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee,

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”) supports Mr. Warren Watanabe’s appointment to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe is well qualified to be confirmed on the Board of Directors of the ADC. He has extensive farming background and has been active in the Maui County Farm Bureau, the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative, and the Maui County Board of Water Supply. This broad agriculture development and policy experience will serve the ADC well. For these reasons, we respectfully ask for your support of Mr. Watanabe’s appointment to serve on the Board of Directors of the ADC.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair**  
**Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair**

DATE: Wednesday, May 13, 2020  
TIME: 1:00 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 016  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**GM 647**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, WARREN WATANABE, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **Strongly Supports** GM 647.

Warren Watanabe is a strong advocate for Hawaii Agriculture, as well as a supporter of the Hawaii Cattle Industry. He has a proven record of experience through his family farm and as the Executive Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau. His extensive involvement on Maui through the Maui County Board of Water Supply, Maui Produce Processing Cooperative, along with his experience on the advisory committee for the Hawaii Drought Council will be an asset to the cattle industry as we navigate improved production in challenging times. Warren has been a tireless advocate for Hawaii Agriculture, and will serve the industry well on the Board of ADC.

Warren has the support of the cattle industry because of his effective management in the most critical resource for our industry. Warren's background and experience have proven him to provide effective strategies in this role. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this letter of support and we urge you to support his nomination.

Nicole Galase  
Managing Director



**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 12:34:57 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jimmy Gomes	Testifying for Ulupalakua Ranch	Support	No

Comments:



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

May 13, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**TESTIMONY ON GM 647**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, WARREN WATANABE, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Room 016  
1:00 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 1,800 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 strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.**

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Please accept our strong support for the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Testimony of Ku'uhaku Park  
On Behalf of Matson  
Support GM647  
Before the Committee on Agriculture and the Environment  
May 13, 2020

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee,

Matson supports GM647, which nominates Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Mr. Watanabe has extensive experience in the agricultural sector, including serving as the President of the Maui Farm Bureau. We believe he will assist with effectively collaborating with farmers, ranchers, and aquaculture groups to acquire and manage selected high-value lands, water systems, and infrastructure for commercial agriculture use and direct research into areas that will lead to the development of new crops, markets, and lower production costs.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support.

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 2:00:07 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

I have known Warren Watanabe for many years and he is a well respected member of Hawaii's Agricultrual Industry. We strongly support his reappointment to the ADC.

**From:** [County Farm Bureau](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:20:06 PM

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Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

County Farm Bureau  
6170 Hauiki Rd Unit G  
Kapaa, HI 96746  
[jerrysfarmkauai@gmail.com](mailto:jerrysfarmkauai@gmail.com)

**LARRY JEFTS FARMS, LLC  
PO BOX 27  
KUNIA, HAWAII 96759  
(808) 688-2892**

**GM 647, Warren Watanabe  
Agribusiness Development Corporation  
Senate AEN Committee  
Wednesday, May 13, 2020  
1:00 pm  
Conference Room 016**

**Written Testimony by: Larry Jeffs  
Position: Support**

Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee:

I am Larry Jeffs, owner and operator of Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC, which is part of our family-run business of farms on Oahu and Molokai, under the administrative umbrella of Sugarland Growers, Inc. We have more than 35 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. I am a volunteer director for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). I am also the Treasurer for the Hawaii Farm Bureau.

Warren Watanabe comes from three generations of farming that went through transitions from growing vegetables to carnations, back to vegetables like cabbages, Maui onions and specialty crops like kale and swiss chard. He knows first-hand the challenges of farming in Hawaii and has been an advocate for Maui agriculturists as the Executive Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau since 2012. He understands water systems and shipping transportation issues that affect agriculture.

With his experience and dedication to Hawaii agriculture, Warren Watanabe will continue to make a valued contribution to ADC, whose mission is to acquire and manage high-value lands, water systems and infrastructure for commercial agricultural use, and to direct research that will lead to the development of new crops, markets and lower production costs.

Please support his renewed term to the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 10:56:07 AM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 11:36:43 AM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 1:57:40 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gregory FRIEL	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 4:17:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronald Weidenbach	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 6:31:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 3:13:08 AM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Takemoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**

before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

in consideration of

**Governor's Message (GM) 647**

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

I strongly support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC).

I have known Mr. Watanabe, professionally and personally for over 10 years, and have had the opportunity to work directly with him during our respective careers. His diligent work, high level of integrity, breadth of knowledge and experience, and holistic approach are just a few of the key assets that he will bring to the ADC Board.

Mr. Watanabe has gained my trust and respect as someone that will uphold the highest levels of leadership, and there is no question that he will greatly contribute and apply his passion, knowledge and experiences to the work of the ADC Board.

I respectfully encourage the Committee to advise and consent to the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on GM 647.

**From:** [Roy Asao](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:00:06 PM

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Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Roy Asao  
1323 Oline St  
Honolulu, HI 96818  
rasao777@aol.com



**From:** [Ron Kauha'aha'a](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:00:07 PM

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Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Ron Kauha'aha'a  
Manager  
Nutrien Ag Solutions  
PO Box 86  
Kunia, HI 96759  
[ron.kauhaahaa@nutrien.com](mailto:ron.kauhaahaa@nutrien.com)

**From:** [Laurie Ho](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:10:06 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Laurie Ho  
retired  
USDA-NRCS  
4133 Kawili St  
Lihue, HI 96766  
laurieho1@hawaiiintel.net

**From:** [Stephanie whalen](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:20:06 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Stephanie whalen  
Ex Dir  
HARC  
PO Box 64  
Kunia, HI 96759  
whaleinn1944@gmail.com

**From:** [Iris Mizuguchi](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:30:03 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Iris Mizuguchi  
PO Box 253  
Kunia, HI 96759  
[irisymiz@gmail.com](mailto:irisymiz@gmail.com)

**From:** [Randy Cabral](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:30:06 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Randy Cabral  
KHK RANCH LLC  
PO BOX 337  
VOLCANO, HI 96785  
kaiwiki.1970@gmail.com

**From:** [Corrine Rice](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:40:06 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Corrine Rice  
Owner  
Maui Flower Exchange  
47 Kahoea Pl  
Kula, HI 96790  
[corrineandpaul@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:corrineandpaul@hawaii.rr.com)

**From:** [Sandi Kato-Klutke](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:10:04 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Sandi Kato-Klutke  
Retired  
6266 Kawaihau Rd  
Kapaa, HI 96746  
skatoklutke@gmail.com

**From:** [Aileen Yeh](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:50:07 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Aileen Yeh  
Owner  
Aileen's Nursery  
942 W Kawaiilani St  
Hilo, HI 96720  
ayeh@hawaii.rr.com



**From:** [Glenn Toyama](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 5:20:04 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Glenn Toyama  
P,VP,S,T  
Hawaiian Flower Gradens  
PO Box 5  
Mountain View, HI 96771  
gtoyama67@gmail.com

**From:** [John Gordines](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 7:00:05 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

John Gordines  
TROPICAL FLOWERS EXPRESS  
6721 Kawaihau Rd  
Kapaa, HI 96746  
[gordines@kauaiflowers.com](mailto:gordines@kauaiflowers.com)

**From:** [Dean Okimoto](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 7:50:03 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Dean Okimoto  
Chair  
Hawaii Agricultural Foundation  
41-574 Makakalo St  
Waimanalo, HI 96795  
deanjokimoto@gmail.com

**From:** [LUANA BECK](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 10:40:04 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

LUANA BECK  
Owner  
Hooluana Ranch  
PO Box 711510  
Mountain View, HI 96771  
holuanaranch@yahoo.om

**From:** [Elton Mow](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:30:06 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Elton Mow  
Orchid Plantation, Inc.  
Orchid Plantation, Inc.  
17-318 Ipuaiwaha St  
Keaau, HI 96749  
[orchidplantation@gmail.com](mailto:orchidplantation@gmail.com)

**From:** [Frederick Mencher](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 2:20:06 AM

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Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Frederick Mencher  
2029 Nuuanu Ave Apt 1510  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
frederickmencher@gmail.com

**From:** [Jason Moniz](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:00:21 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Jason Moniz  
PO Box 253  
Kunia, HI 96759  
[jasonmoniz73@gmail.com](mailto:jasonmoniz73@gmail.com)

**From:** [Alvin Tsuruda](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:10:21 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Alvin Tsuruda  
Owner  
Waihale Products  
41-910 Mahiku Pl  
Waimanalo, HI 96795  
Waihale@hawaiiintel.net



**From:** [Helena Miguel](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:40:11 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Helena Miguel  
Mfg Technician  
Bayer  
PO Box 183  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748  
[helena.miguel@bayer.com](mailto:helena.miguel@bayer.com)

**From:** [Corey Barth](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:50:13 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Corey Barth  
54 Halelani Pl Apt Kihei  
Kihei, HI 96753  
barth.corey@icloud.com

**From:** [Kenneth Kaneshiro](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:00:16 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Kenneth Kaneshiro  
Retired  
99-467 Fernridge Pl  
Aiea, HI 96701  
kaneshirk001@hawaii.rr.com

**From:** [Laurie Yoshida](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:50:11 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Laurie Yoshida  
PO Box 3717  
Lihue, HI 96766  
[lauriyoshida@gmail.com](mailto:lauriyoshida@gmail.com)

**From:** [Melvin Kunitake](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:00:17 AM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Melvin Kunitake  
owner  
melvin kunitake farm  
PO Box 135  
Holualoa, HI 96725  
melvin.kuni@gmail.com

**From:** [Kurt Bosshard](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:50:09 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Kurt Bosshard  
KRB LLC  
3144 Elua St  
Lihue, HI 96766  
kboss@aloha.net

**From:** [Michelle Starke](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support GM647  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 2:30:10 PM

---

Dear Chairman Gabbard,

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Mr. Warren Watanabe to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Watanabe has served the agricultural industry for many years, including serving as President of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He has also served on the Maui County Board of Water Supply and the Maui Produce Processing Cooperative. His vast experience in agriculture serves him well, having represented the industry on committees including Advisory Committees on the Maui General Plan, Kahului Harbor Master Plan, Young Brothers, Superferry, Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan, and Focus Maui Nui. He also represents the Hawaii Farm Bureau on the Hawaii Drought Council. Mr. Watanabe is a strong advocate for the "Important Agricultural Lands Initiative" providing a mechanism for ensuring long term viability of agriculture in Hawaii.

His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly provide positive leadership for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Michelle Starke  
91-1010 Waikoihi St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
[robert.starke.007@gmail.com](mailto:robert.starke.007@gmail.com)

**From:** [Shyloh Stafford-Jones](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support For GM 647, May 13th, 2020, 1:00PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 3:48:45 PM

---

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and the Members of the Committee, My name is Shyloh Stafford-Jones and I Support GM 647.

**Thank you,**

**Shyloh Stafford-Jones**



Owner/Lead Agronomist

Maui, Hawaii

(808) 269-5152

[sjagriservices.com](http://sjagriservices.com)



**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 1:00:32 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kyle Caires	Testifying for Maui County Farm Bureau Member	Support	No

Comments:

I support GM 647.

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 3:06:28 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ted Yamamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-647**

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 12:56:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III	Testifying for Hawaii County Council	Support	No

Comments:

## **AEN Questionnaire Responses from Warren Watanabe (GM 647)**

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?

Agriculture in Hawaii continues to face many challenges. ADC was formed to help agriculture evolve as lands become vacant. Many former plantation lands remain vacant, and we have an aging farmer and rancher population. We need solutions with new challenges such as the current pandemic and the importance of not just food production but all sectors to keep agriculture viable. I would like to be a part of the process to facilitate the continued growth of Hawaii's agriculture.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?

I believe the role of ADC is to provide thoughtful input on staff recommendations and suggest opportunities for consideration to guide and ensure the future success of agriculture.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

I was a full-time farmer for most of my life and now I serve in a leadership role as the Executive Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau encompasses farms and ranches of all types and sizes giving me a wide range of insight into the challenges to viability and success. In addition to advocating for a healthy agriculture industry and providing a myriad of support services to our members, the Maui County Farm Bureau manages funding for various commodity groups, livestock, landscape and coffee as well as its' own programs. We look for ways to increase our level of self sufficiency developing programs such as the very popular Localicious restaurant promotion which has since been adopted by the Hawaii Agriculture Foundation. This program funds our minigrant program funding projects for farmers. In addition, we began AgFest and have grown it to become one of the most successful agricultural festivals in the State. Recognizing the importance of educating our youth about where their food comes from, we also have several programs that support our future agricultural leaders. We are currently working with the County of Maui and other organizations and companies to mitigate the impacts to agriculture from the pandemic. Working with other agencies, businesses, and non-profits are key to finding solutions as new challenges arise.

I have served on the Maui Board of Water Supply as board and eventually Vice Chair. Water is the key resource for much of Hawaii's agriculture; and the insights into the system that manages this precious resource has been a valuable education.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

The ability to facilitate effective ways to truly move the needle on agriculture vs. relocating production areas within the state resulting in successful agricultural operations across the state is one of my primary goals.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?

Willing to listen - to various opinions and suggestions, as all options should be considered

Steadfast - to focus on achieving goals

Committed – to be accountable and participate in meetings

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?

I do not expect to stand out but rather be an integral participant of an effective team that will work together to make ADC successful. I have served in various committees, including the General Plan Advisory Committee and the Axis Deer Working Group for Maui County. This meant working with people with diverse points of views while having them understand the needs of agriculture. I am passionate about agriculture and am committed to voicing my position on issues. It is imperative that we ensure considering factors are known while supporting the team's final decision.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

No, I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interest. I've been in agriculture for my entire working career and am dedicated to working towards paving the way for a healthy industry.