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Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
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TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FEBRUARY 25, 2019
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 1365 HD1
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUDGET

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 1365 HD1. This bill appropriates funds for operating budget for the Department of Agriculture. The Department supports this bill.

The item contained in the bill would appropriate two positions and funds to the Pesticides program to implement policies in Act 45, SLH 2018, including restricted use pesticides reporting and a ban on the pesticide Chlorpyrifos. Although the act included two positions, those positions are only valid for FY 19. Including these positions in the budget will facilitate the program's ability to continue the policies set forth in the act. We ask that the committee consider funding these positions via general funds as the Legislature had done via Act 45, SLH 2018 a year ago.

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



LATE

HB-1365-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 10:16:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:



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February 25, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1365, HD1
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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 HB 1365, HD1**, which appropriates funds for operating expenses of the department of agriculture (DOA) pesticides branch.

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.