

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
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February 4, 2020

TO: The Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1940 – RELATING TO SERVICE ANIMALS**

Hearing: February 5, 2020, 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of the bill and defers to the Department of Agriculture in terms of implementation and sufficient appropriation amount.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for the design and development of a professional training facility for guide dogs and other professionally trained service dogs on an undeveloped portion of the State's animal quarantine facility in Halawa valley on Oahu.

Increasing training resources that would make more trained guide dogs available to Hawaii's residents with disabilities, would support more individuals' ability to work and participate in other social activities to meet their human and economic potential.

Also, while the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) does not require a service animal to be professionally trained, the ADA allows owners to train their own service animal. Resources should be developed to provide owners with information, education, and coaching on strategies to train their own service animals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**JOSH GREEN**  
Lt. Governor



**PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**MORRIS M. ATTA**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**FEBRUARY 5, 2020  
9:00 AM  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1940  
RELATING TO SERVICE ANIMALS**

Chairperson Yamane and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1940, relating to guide dogs. The bill proposes to appropriate funds for the planning and design of a professional training facility for guide dogs and other professionally trained service dogs on a designated portion of the state animal quarantine facility in Halawa valley on Oahu.

The Department is in support of the bill provided the planning and design is subject to approval by the Department, and is compatible with Animal Industry Operations and the planned relocation of the Animal Quarantine Station.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs  
Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

By

Nicholas Comerford, Dean  
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

And

Michael Bruno, PhD

Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### HB 1940 – RELATING TO SERVICE ANIMALS

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd and members of the House Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1940.

We defer to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA) as to its ability to meet the requirements of this bill.

However, we wish to note that as the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa moves to develop a companion animal program within the animal science curriculum, we see opportunities to partner with this program. We can envision supporting it with research and education, as well as it being a source of internships for our students. We also envision that programs like this could encourage students to take this direction in their careers.

In summary, we are in support of HB 1940, but defer to the HDOA on the outcome.

**HB-1940**

Submitted on: 1/31/2020 4:22:49 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/5/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anne Marie Jacintho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: