

HB-860-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 10:20:33 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Munekata	Testifying for Hawaii Department of Agriculture	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Monday, March 11, 2019
1:15 p.m.

HOUSE BILL NO. 860 HD1
RELATING TO LAND AND BUILDING ACQUISITION

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation ("ADC"). The ADC supports House Bill No. 860 HD1, which appropriates funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation for the acquisition of certain property, provided that the price does not exceed the amount appropriated.

TMK (1) 9-2-001:011-0000 is located at 94-488 Kunia Road on Oahu and encompasses 282 acres with existing baseyard and greenhouse infrastructure. The existing facilities and buildings are in good working order and can be repurposed with minimal changes. This parcel will have multiple purposes, which may include certain HDOA Animal Industry and Plant Industry activities, research and development projects for outdoor and controlled environment growing systems, and commercial agriculture.

Also, the ADC requests that the \$15,000,000 appropriation be reinstated as found in HB860.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your consideration of this bill.



O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP)

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME: 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 224 State Capitol

RE: HB 860, HD 1, Relating to Land and Building Acquisition

To the Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair; the Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

My name is Melodie Aduja and I serve as Chair of the O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (“DPH”). Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony on HB 860, HD 1. The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (“OCCLP”) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 860, HD 1, Relating Land and Building Acquisition.**

HB 860, HD 1, provides that article XI, section 3 of the state constitution requires the State to “conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands”. The purpose of HB 860, HD 1, is to appropriate funds for the purchase of land that will help fulfill the State’s constitutional duty to strengthen the agricultural sector.

Agriculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened. Sufficient prime agricultural lands must be maintained for the health, economic well-being and sustenance of the people. DPH believes in an integrated approach to agricultural innovation and sustainability. DPH encourages the responsible development of ocean resources and aquaculture to achieve sustainability in our State of our marine resources an ensure and improve the health of our reef and marine life.

This approach includes, but is not limited to, the adoption of the Native Hawaiian concept of ahupua`a, an integrated approach to land management. This could also include development of economic, land and ocean use policies that foster sustainable crops both for local consumption

and for export, polices to foster agriculture-related infrastructure at shipping points, and increased inspection to protect against invasive species and to encourage reduced holding times. We need to ensure food safety, strive towards food security an strive to set the highest standards for food quality and nutrition. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018), p. 9, ln. 5-16.*

For the foregoing reasons, to wit, agriculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened as sufficient prime agricultural lands must be maintained for the health, economic well-being and sustenance of the people, OCCLP supports HB 860, HD 1, and urges its passage out of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment.

Mahalo nui loa
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

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March 11, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB 860, HD1
RELATING TO LAND AND BUILDING ACQUISITION

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 interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau is in support of HB 860, HD1, which appropriates funds to the agribusiness development corporation to acquire the Kunia Dow DuPont Pioneer Land.

HFB believes that in order for agriculture to flourish in Hawaii and reach their full potential, land availability and long-term leases at affordable and predictable lease rental rates are critical. The acquisition by the ADC of farmland in Kunia will significantly increase the available agricultural land under the State's control and will provide farmers with long-term leases that will enhance the economic viability of Hawaii's agriculture industry.

We believe this is an opportunity to further support and expand the state's ability to provide agricultural lands for farmers, which is consistent with the State's goal of increasing self-sufficiency and sustainability.

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

HB-860-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:09:46 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Fernandez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: