

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

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

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

APRIL 8, 2022

1:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM 224 & VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 547

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 547. This measure seeks to reappoint Diane Ley as the Hawai'i Island member to the Board of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Ms. Ley has extensive experience in Hawai'i's agricultural sector at all levels of government, serving with the United States Department of Agriculture as the State Director of Farm Service Agency, and as Deputy to Chairperson of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture. She served as the County of Hawai'i Director of the Department of Research and Development in 2016 - 2020 and as County of Hawai'i Deputy Director of Research and Development in 2005 -2009. Her dedication to local agriculture can be seen in her leadership and commitment to various agricultural organizations including the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii and the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. Diane has a vast knowledge of Hawaii's agricultural industry and her presence and voice on the Board of Agriculture greatly benefits the State of Hawaii. The Department strongly supports her appointment to serve a second term.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT
Friday, April 8, 2022 — 1:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative strongly supports GM 547, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, Diane Ley, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy, clean transportation, and better management of freshwater and waste.

Ulupono strongly supports GM 547. Diane Ley has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in Hawai'i's agricultural sector. Her diverse professional background and experience directly working with local farmers and ranchers provides a unique perspective which shows how to support producers in a variety of ways. Diane continues to provide a critical voice on the Board of Agriculture and confirming her to an additional term will be extremely important for Hawai'i agriculture as we look to meet our State's local food and sustainability goals.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



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

April 8, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 547

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau strongly supports GM 547, seeking the confirmation of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Ms. Ley has been involved in the agricultural industry for over forty years, including serving in the Federal, State, and County governments, in the private sector, and as a small farmer. Her diverse professional background in agriculture includes experience as the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director for Hawai'i and Pacific Basin, Deputy to the Chairperson of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, Director and Deputy of the Department of Research & Development for the County of Hawai'i, Assistant Coordinator and Board Vice President for UH-CTAHR's Agricultural Leadership Program, and Hawai'i Farm Bureau's Administrative Assistant

Ms. Ley, who is currently serving on the Board of Agriculture, has an extensive background and understanding of Hawai'i's diverse agricultural industry and will be a continued asset to the Board of Agriculture, Hawai'i's agriculture sector, and the people of Hawai'i.

We respectfully request your strong support towards the confirmation of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.



COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

GM547
Board of Agriculture, DIANE LEY

Friday, April 8, 2022, 1:00 PM
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

The Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawai'i, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawai'i 's cattle producers.

The Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council **supports GM547** to confirm Gubernatorial Nominee, Diane Ley, to the Board of Agriculture of a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Ms. Ley currently serves on the Board of Agriculture, and we have had the pleasure of working with her throughout her years on the board. Her efforts to support the State's goals of protecting agricultural lands and expanding local food production align with the Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council's mission. She has demonstrated dedication to making informed decisions and regularly reaches out to community members on Board agenda items to gather information. When she has reached out to the Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council, she is able to understand the situation and dialogue to learn about possible solutions.

Ms. Ley's experience in the agricultural sector and her intimate knowledge of governmental processes will continue to be an asset to the Board of Agriculture. Thank you for the opportunity to support Diane Ley's nomination to the Board of Agriculture.

Nicole Galase
Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



GM-547

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 10:20:36 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ley	Individual	Comments	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered for appointment to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture as the Hawaii Island representative. It would be an honor and privilege to continue serving our producers in their efforts to grow and expand production throughout the state, while balancing the fiduciary duties to protect and deploy public resources.

I will be available during the AEN hearing via Zoom to respond to questions or concerns the Committee may have.

Mahalo nui loa,

Diane L. Ley

Puna Flower Power

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chairman

Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Re: GM 547, the nomination of Diane Ley as a member of the Board of Agriculture

Dear Senator Gabbard and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

I am Gordon Inouye, President of Puna Flower Power, a cooperative formed in 2019 by orchid growers devastated by the 2018 Kilauea LER Eruption. I am writing today to support the nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

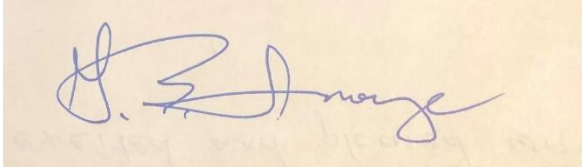
During and shortly after the 2018 Kilauea eruption, many of the orchid growers in Kapoho came together to cooperatively see what could be done to help restart the orchid industry which had been decimated by the eruption. While Federal, State and County agencies held various open meeting to address the concerns of citizens, the orchid growers needed to initiate their own effort to get back in business.

During this challenging period, despite a very challenging schedule, Diane made it a point to attend the meeting of the group and provided the growers with excellent guidance on steps to take to get back in business. This led to the eventually founding of the Puna Flower Power cooperative which has successfully been awarded several grants and State emergency loans to restart the industry.

We had the good fortune of hosting Senator Gabbard and his lively wife at the PFP nursery a few months ago and I am certain the he can attest to the success

of the operation. Needless to say, we owe much to Diane for her counsel and guidance in helping the coop achieve the success we have today.

Mahalo,

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored, textured paper background. The signature is cursive and appears to read "G. Inouye".

Gordon Inouye
President

GM-547

Submitted on: 4/5/2022 3:08:34 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ken Love	Testifying for Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

This letter from Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers (HTFG) is in support of Ms. Diane Ley to serve another term on the Board of Agriculture. Her history of work on behalf of growers and producers statewide is well known and documented. Her service to many of our 1800 members over the past, more than 25 years, has enabled many of us to achieve greater sustainability on our farms and much greater knowledge of how different agriculture systems and government works on our behalf.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ken Love

Executive Director

Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers

GM-547

Submitted on: 4/5/2022 5:00:54 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am the Vice President of Ponoholo Ranch Limited.

We strongly support GM 547, the nomination of Diane Ley for the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Diane is a leader in the Hawaii agricultural industry, and has been so for over two decades, during which time she has been not only a trusted advisor, but a close friend. These interactions include:

- - Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation efforts
 - Ag Day at the Legislature – we were part of the founding organizers
 - Commodity Advisory Group – where we collaborated to pass \$19 million in ag irrigation funds, the first such appropriation in a long, long time, and engaged in the discussions that led to the enactment of the Important Ag Lands Act
 - Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii
 - Hawaii Board of Agriculture

Furthermore, Diane’s administrative positions in the federal, state and county government have afforded her a solid understanding of policy and programmatic development and implementation which impact agriculture and Hawaii’s rural communities. She does not shy away from making tough decisions that are based upon data, facts and the law or established policies. Her experience as a farmer has provided her with an honest understanding of the challenges producers have, to bring products to the market while protecting the environment and making a go of it as a business.

Here varied agricultural employment includes the following:

- County of Hawai`i Department of Research and Development, Director
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency for Hawai`i and the Pacific Basin, State Executive Director, August 2009 – November 2016

- County of Hawai`i Department of Research and Development, Deputy Director March 2005 – July 2009
- State of Hawai`i Department of Agriculture, Deputy to the Chairperson, February 2003 – February 2005
- Hawai`i Farm Bureau Federation, Administrative Assistant, March 1993 – February 2003

Diane has great integrity and is a very hard working individual. Diane will continue to represent the agricultural industry well on the Board of Agriculture.

I previously served on the State Board of Agriculture with Diane for four years and ALWAYS found her to be an advocate for Hawaii farmers and ranchers, especially for the small farmer.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to testify in strong support of the nomination for Diane Ley.



HAWAII FOREST INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (HFIA)

P. O. Box 66 ❖ 'O'ōkala, HI 96774

Phone: 808-933-9411

Email: hfia@hawaiiiforest.org

Website: www.hawaiiiforest.org

Date: 4/5/22

TO: AEN Chair Mike Gabbard, AEN Vice Chair Clarence Nishihara, GVO Chair Sharon Morkiwaki , GVO Vice Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, AEN Legislators Laura Acasio, Kurt Fevella, Karl Rhoads, GVO Legislators Stanley Chang, Kurt Fevella, and Mike Gabbard

FROM: Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA)

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of GM547 the gubernatorial nomination of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture

Dear Hawaii Legislators,

On behalf of the Directors of the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA), I encourage you to support Diane Ley as the gubernatorial nominee, and to confirm her to serve, again, on the Board of Agriculture.

Diane has the professional experience that more than qualifies her to serve in this position. Her career expertise paired with her genuine desire to do good by Hawaii's agricultural industry, Hawaii's rural communities, Hawaii's natural resources and generally, Hawaii's people, is clear.

HFIA has personally had positive experiences with Diane via her role in approving grants that have helped us to actualize some of our projects and initiatives. One such example, that in recently speaking with Diane, she recalls supporting and taking a sincere interest in, is HFIA's 'Āina Mauna Christmas Tree Demonstration Project.

HFIA understands the relationship that exists between agriculture and forestry in Hawaii. We are happy to say that Diane has been a consistent supporter of forestry over the years, understanding the importance of forest health in relation to successful agriculture and healthy communities. We hope that the senate will confirm her to serve another four years on the Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo,

Don Bryan

Don Bryan, President

Hawai'i Forest Industry Association

Established in 1989, HFIA's is a nonprofit organization founded by people committed to sustainable forest management.

HFIA's mission is to promote healthy and productive forests and a sustainable forest industry through management, education, planning, information exchange, and advocacy. HFIA has over 100 members including woodworkers, landowners, sawyers, foundations, foresters, growers, educators, environmentalists, architects, millers, ranchers, and others interested in HFIA's mission and goals.

HFIA Board of Directors

Officers: President Don Bryan, Vice-President Guy Cellier, Secretary Peter D. Simmons, Treasurer Wade Lee
Directors: Thomas Calhoun, Jeremy Campbell, Aaron Hammer, Nickolas Koch, Tai Lake, Gilles Lebbe, Michael Sowards, Irene Sprecher, Michael Tam, Jorma Winkler, Ron Wolfe, Aileen Yeh



April 8, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 547

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee,
DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2026

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support GM 547, seeking the confirmation of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Ms. Ley has been involved in the agricultural industry for over forty years, including serving in the Federal, State, and County governments, in the private sector, and as a small farmer. Her diverse professional background in agriculture includes experience as the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director for Hawaii and Pacific Basin, Deputy to the Chairperson of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Director and Deputy of the Department of Research & Development for the County of Hawaii, and Assistant Coordinator and Board Vice President for UH-CTAHR's Agricultural Leadership Program.

Ms. Ley is currently serving on the Board of Agriculture, has an extensive background and understanding of Hawaii's diverse agricultural industry and will be continued asset to the Board of Agriculture, Hawaii's agriculture sector, and people of Hawaii.

I respectfully request strong support toward the confirmation of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Brian Watanabe
President
Island Grown Foods, Inc.
Dbas: Hawaii Food Products



THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Friday, April 8, 2022 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Support for Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

Ms. Ley would be a valuable asset to the Board of Agriculture and we fully support her nomination as the Hawaii Island Representative.

In my role of President of HFNA, I have had the opportunity to interact with Ms. Diane Ley and have found her to be well versed on the trials and tribulations that effect farmers and ranchers here in Hawaii. She has shown a willingness to listen and spend the time needed to understand these challenges we experience in Hawaii and respond with common sense solutions.

She is very personable and is an excellent “bridge builder”, always bringing people together to find common ground, so that everyone can move forward together.

It would be my pleasure to answer any other questions regarding the expertise Ms. Diane Ley can bring to this position I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,


Eric S. Tanouye
President

Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association



THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Friday, April 8, 2022 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SUPPORT FOR GM 547 – Diane Ley

Aloha,

My name is Thong Teng Neo and am the current President of the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council (HTFC). HTFC is a statewide association of commodity organizations, ie: anthurium, orchid, protea, tropic flowers and foliage, blooming and foliage plants. The Hawaii Tropical Flower Council directs promotion and supports research of Hawaii's tropical flower industry. Each of the state's major flower commodity groups (anthuriums, orchids, proteas, tropic flowers and foliage, blooming and foliage plants) is represented on the council's board of directors. HTFC serves as a non-profit Hawaii Corporation to promote for its commodity groups and other producers of tropical horticulture grown in the State of Hawaii.

We would like to express our **support** for Ms. Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture as a representative for Hawaii's Agriculture.

We have found Ms. Ley to be well educated in the problems that face Hawaii's Farmers and Ranchers. She has the experience to see

HTFC ▪ P.O. Box 4400 ▪ Hilo, HI 96720 ▪ www.hawaii-tropical-flower-council.org

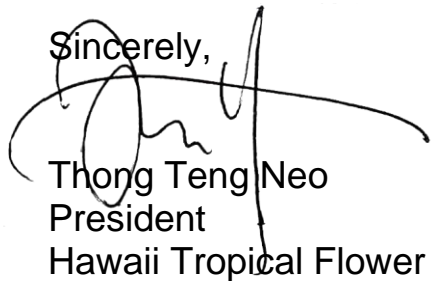
www.Hawaii'sFlowers.com
Share the Aloha!



solutions and we believe she would be of great service to Agriculture and the State of Hawaii in this position. We believe having her serve on the board will help to guide Hawaii's agriculture in a positive direction.

Thank you for taking the time to read this correspondence and if you have any questions, I can be reached at neo@greenpointnursery.com or 808 959 3535 ext 2615.

Sincerely,



Thong Teng Neo
President
Hawaii Tropical Flower Council



ORCHID GROWERS
OF HAWAII

THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Friday, April 8, 2022 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SUPPORT FOR GM 547 – Diane Ley

Aloha,

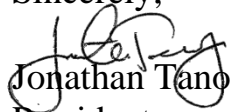
My name is Jon Tanouye and I am the current President of the Orchid Growers of Hawaii (OGO).H).

We would like to express our **support** for Ms. Diane Ley to serve on the Board of Agriculture

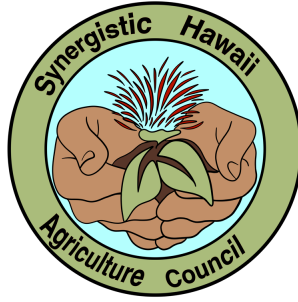
We consider Ms. Ley to be well qualified for this position and would be a great representative for Hawaii's agriculture. We have had the pleasure of speaking with Ms. Ley regarding the state of Agriculture in Hawaii and we are confident that she sees the bigger picture and will help to guide our state.

If you have any other questions, you may contact me to discuss and I can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 or via email at jon@greenpointnursery.com.

Sincerely,


Jonathan Tanouye
President

Orchid Growers of Hawaii (OGO)



RE: SUPPORT for GM547

Consideration and Confirmation of Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Committee Members,

The Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council (SHAC) stands in **strong support** of Diane Ley for the Board of Agriculture. Our consortium of floriculture, papaya, macadamia and coffee commodities represents 1,500 agribusinesses, from growers to processors and shippers, stretching across the State of Hawai'i. Our members have worked closely with Ms. Ley and have always been impressed with her knowledge and understanding of agriculture.

SHAC's offices and many of our members are based in the Hilo area. During the 2018 Kilauea lava flow, our crops were under great duress. Orchid and papaya growers lost a considerable amount of land to the flow, and nearby floriculture fields were damaged by extensive sulfur off-gassing. While with the County of Hawai'i, Ms. Ley was a strong presence during those difficult times, willing to meet with growers at any time, coordinating multi-agency activities in support of agriculture, and providing leadership in the midst of extreme challenge.

As the disaster transitioned to recovery, Ms. Ley continued to assist our growers, and was part of a key success story: the founding of the Puna Flower Power (PFP) agricultural cooperative. SHAC staff and Ms. Ley facilitated discussions with the displaced Puna orchid growers and assisted them in forming the PFP cooperative. This group is now slowly rebuilding their greenhouses, and growing orchids again. They began to sell potted orchids again in December, the first time since the lava destroyed their businesses in 2018.

There are many more stories where Ms. Ley has been a pivotal part of Hawaii's agricultural story. I am confident that she would continue that history as a member of the Board of Ag.

Please contact me with any questions. 808-989-4883 or suzanne@shachawaii.org.

Mahalo nui loa!

Suzanne Shriner
Administrator

An Equal Opportunity Cooperator
Hawai'i Coffee Association • Hawai'i Floriculture and Nursery Association
Hawai'i Macadamia Nut Association • Hawai'i Papaya Industry Association
190 Keawe Street Suite 25, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
info@SHACHawaii.org



MAUI COUNTY FARM BUREAU

PO Box 148, Kula, HI 96790
mauicountyfarmbureau.org

April 8, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 547

Submitting for consideration to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial
Nominee, DIANE LEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2026

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

I am Warren Watanabe, Executive Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau. The Maui County Farm Bureau supports GM 547, seeking the confirmation of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture. Ms. Ley has served the agricultural industry for decades on the Federal, State, and County levels of government. Her background and experience will continue to be a great asset to the Board of Agriculture in advancing Hawaii's agriculture into the future.

We respectfully request your strong support of Ms. Diane Ley to the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

HAWAII INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC AGRICULTURE

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April ,6th 2022

Dear Chair Gabbard,

The Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag) would like to offer our supportive testimony for Diane Ley and her nomination for a second (4) year term on the Hawaii State Board Of Agriculture.

Diane Ley has provided our organization, fellow non-profits, and agricultural producers with exceptional service throughout the prior term. As an experienced farmer, Diane has a deep understanding and connection to the local agricultural industry, her unique perspective enables her to recognize the needs and challenges that Hawaii farmers face and her position on the board has become an integral asset for all those she serves.

It is our sincere belief that if reinstated for an additional term, Diane will continue to effectively serve the agricultural community, contribute to the Board of Agriculture, and uphold the Department's mission and role in positively affecting the growth and development of Hawaii's agricultural sector.

Aloha,
Dash Kuhr
(Executive Director)

The Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture is
a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
EIN 45-2534694



Physical Address:
53-378 Pratt Road
Kapātau, HI 96755

USPS Mailing Address:
PO Box 497
Kapātau, HI 96755

808.889.6316
www.hipagriculture.org
hipagriculture@gmail.com

GM-547

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 11:47:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Ashman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support confirmation of Diane Ley to continue to serve as a member of the Board of Agriculture.

I have worked with Diane on many environmental and agricultural issues for over twenty years in her capacity as Deputy Director at the County of Hawaii, at the Department of Agriculture, and with the Farm Bureau. She is extremely knowledgeable, experienced in all facets of Hawaii agriculture, quick witted, and an asset to any organization.



PO Box 168, Kealahou, HI 96750
808-929-9550

HAWAII STATE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

April 8, 2022

RE: Testimony in Support of GM 547

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and members of the Committee,

I am Chris Manfredi, Executive Director of Hawaii Coffee Association.

The Hawaii Coffee Association's (HCA) mission is to represent all sectors of the Hawaiian coffee industry, including growers, millers, wholesalers, roasters and retailers located throughout the State of Hawaii. The HCA's primary objective is to increase awareness and consumption of Hawaiian coffees. A major component of HCA's work is the continuing education of members and consumers. According to the USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service, (NASS), the Hawaiian Coffee industry is conservatively ranked as the second-highest value crop in Hawaii - not accounting for retail sales.

The HCA strongly supports DIANE LEY as a nominee to the Board of Agriculture.

Diane has the knowledge, background, sensibilities and work ethic to be an effective leader on the Board of Agriculture. Diane has deep roots and experience in all matters relating to agriculture at all levels of government and the private sector. Her leadership and communication skills are above reproach. She will continue to be a strong and balanced asset to the Board of Agriculture, the State of Hawaii and all who depend on agriculture. We can think of no better candidate for this position. **The Hawaii Coffee Association strongly supports this nominee.**

Thank you for your support of DIANE LEY.

GM-547

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 2:16:06 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Garrett Webb	Testifying for Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii Foundation fully supports Diane Ley to be nominated on the Board of Agriculture Gubernatorial Nominee . LICH, and myself personally as Executive Director of LICH, for many years have seen all the great work Diane Ley has done for Agriculture and for the Landscape Industry. The DOA will be making a great choice.

GM-547

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 6:11:23 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ronald Weidenbach	Testifying for Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association strongly support the nomination of Ms. Diane Ley to another term on the Hawaii Bboard of Agriculture. Ms. Ley has been actively involved in the agricultural industry for over forty years, including serving in the Federal, State, and County governments, in the private sector, and as a small farmer. Her diverse professional background in agriculture includes experience as the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director for Hawai‘i and Pacific Basin, Deputy to the Chairperson of the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture, Director and Deputy of the Department of Research & Development for the County of Hawai‘i, and Assistant Coordinator and Board Vice President for UH-CTAHR’s Agricultural Leadership Program. She has an extensive background and understanding of Hawai‘i’s diverse agricultural industry and the wisdom and personality to be a continued asset to the Board of Agriculture, Hawai‘i’s agriculture sector, and the people of Hawai‘i. It is HAAA's privelage to respectfully request your strong support for the confirmation of Ms. Ley to the Board of Agriculture.