

SB-2986

Submitted on: 1/30/2022 10:59:30 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support

SB-2986

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 3:54:57 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Maureen Datta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill to improve our hemp industry.

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 AND ENVIRONMENT

FEBRAURY 2, 2022

1:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM 224 & VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SENATE BILL NO. 2986
RELATING TO HEMP

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2986. This measure removes certain duplicative regulations imposed on hemp producers in the State, allows hemp producers to sell biomass directly to consumers, requires that hemp produced in the State be labeled as Hawaii produced and that hemp produced outside the State be labeled with the appropriate origin. The Department offers comments and concerns regarding this bill.

Reducing the growing buffer zone from 500 feet to 100 feet near residential dwellings may increase land use conflicts and complaints between licensed hemp growers and established neighbors over noise from fans, light pollution from grow lights, and smells associated with hemp cultivation. These conditions are typically associated with indoor hemp cultivation operations and may be mitigated through engineering



solutions or design. While reduced buffer zones may impact those issues between agricultural activity and abutting residential districts, the proposed 100 feet buffer zones for hemp operations appear to conform with such buffers for other nuisance or hazardous activities such as pesticide application.

Removing the Department of Agriculture responsibility to regulate transportation of hemp and allowing direct sales of “biomass” to consumers, including online sales, would eliminate the transportation report notification requirement. The Department notes that the notification requirement is currently used by law enforcement to check that hemp being transported in compliance with all USDA required testing and State regulation. Additionally, the Department recommends that “Biomass” be defined and clarified to confirm whether it includes fiber, leaf, flower, propagative plant materials, etc.

Hemp geographic origin labeling provides transparency and encourages fair advertising practices for hemp products that are being promoted for sale. The Department supports the labeling requirement to ensure that hemp produced in the State is labeled as Hawaii produced and that hemp produced outside the State is labeled with the appropriate origin. The Department notes, however that enforcement of the requirement may be challenging because it is difficult to determine the authenticity of the origin of the product.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



www.hawaiihempfarmersassociation.org

January 31, 2022

Support SB 2986 with Amendment

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

The Hawaii Hemp Farmers Association strongly supports SB 2986. This bill is exactly what is needed to support hemp farmers in Hawaii and move the hemp industry forward to increase rural economic opportunities for our communities.

We urge you to include additional language to ensure there is no double regulation of farmers to page 8 Section 2 as follows:

(g) Hemp producers licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to grow hemp shall follow all inspection and sampling rules and protocols established by the USDA and no other inspections or sampling by the State will be required, nor will the State issue violations or penalties to USDA licensed hemp producers following USDA rules and protocols. Penalties may only be issued for growing hemp without a USDA issued license.

HHFA believes that SB 2986 is the path to help hemp farmers create a thriving hemp industry that will greatly benefit Hawaii and its citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Maki
Ray Maki
President and Farmer

Gail Byrne Baber
Gail Byrne Baber
Vice President and Farmer

*Hawaii Hemp Farmers Association
Support SB 2986*

SB-2986

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 6:56:06 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This should be a no brainer. Any means of expediting the cultivation is a win-win for everyone.

SB-2986

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 7:33:40 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cindy Evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill is a good step in supporting agriculture.

SB-2986

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 9:02:34 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lelle Vie	Testifying for Hawaii Hemp Industry Association	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a former director of the way Hawaii hemp farmers association. I resigned after the first bill passed because I believe it is more important to advocate for cannabis as a genetic plant. I do not want to label the difference between Hemp and Medical/higher THC genetics. Cannabis is one plant. The number of 0.3 THC has given the government the ability to categorize one as Hemp and the other has a controlled substance. I disagree with this philosophy.

In reviewing your bill I feel that there is a disparity between access to plant-based medicine and the business entities that have entered this industry. I have hundreds of flights and have spent years in the Botanical and cannabis industry. I have been extracting botanicals for 34 years and in Hawaii for over a decade. Seeing any sort of restriction on what should be a human right is disheartening. I have worked with many with multi million dollar companies as a chief strategist developing their brand and vertical integrated companies in this industry. Most notably I learned valuable lessons from working with the ones who created the license dispensary system for the world and others sued the federal government to make CBD legal in 2016. I have spent a lot time with the original founders and descendants of the industry in Jamaica and across the US. I have engaged with deep personal conversations with the pioneers of cannabis industry and we all generally feel the same with what I'm about to say.

I have prioritized human rights to have access to plant-based medicine including cannabis. Although I'm happy to see that there are growers and manufacturers of this plant, the restrictions being placed upon residence as well as restrictions of only allowing licensed operators away from residential areas to extract is excessive overreach. Now more than ever our society needs low-cost options for plant based medicine. I fear business industry permanently damaging the genetics because our government is villainizing things such as THC to an arbitrary number of 0.3 and putting it in a category that restricts its freedom. The people of Hawaii deserve the freedom to decriminalize this plant.

There are thousands of studies in Israel that I've been funded by the US government that are published medical studies. The US government patented several cannabis extracts in 2003. Most importantly one is as a neuroprotectant. With the recent rise in mental health issues it is

imperative that our legislation look at the fact that our Endocannabinoid system is the most abundant nerve receptor in our body. It is proven that our bodies produce cannabinoid's called Endocannabinoid's and that there are also plant-based source called Phytocannabinoids. When looking at the research cannabinoids are nutrients as essential as any other vitamin. Actually, even more essential. The benefits that have been proven in medical studies and John Hopkins University range from children to geriatric. It is time for legislation to stop ignoring the ancestral rights of plant-based medicine.

This bill supports the marketing and control and restriction of a plant that should be accessible to all. The right to extract this plant which needs to be available to every citizen not just those who have the right location, or got in early enough, or with enough money to purchase exclusivity. By restricting the limits of THC to 0.03 you endorse Botanical tyranny and undo financial hardship on our farmers, society, and worse... The restriction is damaging the genetics of the cannabis plant potentially forever. The healing aspects of this plant require THC levels to not be removed out of the plant genetics. I asked the legislation to look at other places like Mexico that allow all their citizens to grow their medicine and extracted at home in small volume.

SB-2986

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 9:19:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Marilyn Powers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2986 to reduce regulatory authority over hemp. Too many regulations slows down the effectiveness in working towards a well run business and industry. Over regulation causes unnecessary stress in the working environment and creates lost time and money,

Thank you for your considerations in this matter.

FROM: Robert Bence

TO: Hawai'i Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

RE: Strong Support for HB2986 RELATING TO HEMP

Aloha Chair Gabbard and AEN Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of HB2986 relating to hemp. I grew up farming here, after graduating from UH Mānoa with a BBA, returned to Kula to farm full time. Diversified farming since and implemented a USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, contract that brought federal funding to help improve the agriculture and environment on the family farm.

After being diagnosed with a previously undiscovered random birth defect, that caused a stroke followed by brain surgery that led to learning to walk and talk again, developed conditions that I treat with hemp. Researching growing hemp as allowed under the USDA rules on my farm which was purchased with a loan from USDA FSA. Farming hemp has been a major life goal since returning to farming full-time with a severe disability and the first farm bill.

Plan to include hemp with the farm's agroforestry conservation plan as part of alley cropping and multistory planting practices with ultra high density planting of several different trees including grafted avocados and mango. Rotational grazing and notill cover crop rotations of sunn hemp rolled and crimped followed by hemp making it a great companion plant for the notill rotations that can be done from tractor allowing more production despite the disability.

The change to current buffer zones and restrictions on sales of biomass as well as the on farm solventless extractions involving ice, water and freeze dryer are among major state regulations addressed by this bill that will help the farm. The buffer zone at 100' would still limit the production and if any recommendation I could make would be the 100' not apply to farm dwellings on agriculture land. The problems with the hemp pilot member who prompted original buffer debate would be protected by the right to farm act and could apply to several other agricultural activities. The best solution seems to be the small scale local farmers part of the community that will work to minimize disturbances to neighbors because it is the right way to farm anything.

The benefits of hemp as a food and a myriad of other uses from soil remediation to advanced nano particles of hemp graphene superconductors from animal bedding to housing from fresh juice to solventless extracts to seed breeding... the market potential and environmental benefit list would go on for countless pages. Hawai'i farmers shouldn't be left behind any longer. The grown in Hawai'i label is important.

Greatly appreciate your hearing this bill and again state that I strongly support HB2986. As a local disabled farmer who has been wanting to grow it since the first farm bill but unable due to the current restrictions, I appreciate the bill immensely.

Mahalo

Robert Bence



Officers

Vincent Mina
State President
HFUU

Anabella Bruch
Vice-President
HFUU

Maureen Datta
Secretary
HFUU

Reba Lopez
HFUU Treasurer

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

The Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU) is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawai'ian islands. This bill establishes hemp origin labeling, streamlines unnecessary regulatory duplication, and would expand market opportunities for Hawaii hemp farmers and for these reasons **HFUU strongly supports SB2986**.

Chapter Presidents

Dash Kuhr
Kohala, Hawai'i

Drake Weinert,
East Hawai'i

Steve Lund
Puna, Hawai'i

Andrea Drayer
K'au, Hawaii

Maureen Datta
Kona, Hawai'i

We also **support the addition of the following language** on page 8 Section 2 as a final subsection:

(g) Hemp producers licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to grow hemp shall follow all inspection and sampling rules and protocols established by the USDA and no other inspections or sampling by the State will be required, nor will the State issue violations or penalties to USDA licensed hemp producers following USDA rules and protocols. Penalties may only be issued for growing hemp without a USDA issued license

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Vincent Mina President HFUU/HFUF

Robert Boudreaux
Hana, Maui

Reba Lopez
Haleakala, Maui

Bobby Pahia
Mauna Kahalawai,
Maui

Kaipo Kekona
Lahaina, Mau

Brynn Foster
North Shore, Oahu

Christian Zuckerman
Wai'anae, Oahu

Vincent Kimura
Waimanalo, Oahu

Anabella Bruch
Kauai

SB-2986

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 9:25:19 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Reba Lopez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As president of the Haleakala Chapter of the Hawaii Farmers Union United, and a family farmer at Birds with Arms Farms, I would like to testify in support of this bill. Mahalo.

Hawaii Hemp Center

Community Based Project by Farmers

hihempfarmers.org

January 31, 2022

Re: Support SB 2986 with Amendment

Aloha,

SB 2986 is exactly what Hawaii hemp farmers need. The Hawaii Hemp Farmers Center is dedicated to advocating for the needs of Hawaii's Farmers. Hawaii farmers birthed the hemp and CBD market in Hawaii but have mostly shut out of participating in \$32,000,000i per year Hawaii CBD market – that money is being primally exported.

The Hawaii Hemp Farmers Center supports:

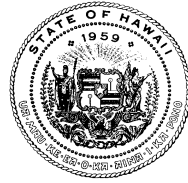
1. Eliminating Double Regulation of Hawaii Hemp Farmers - Hawaii Farmers' production (growing) of hemp is regulated by the US Department of Agriculture. We are the ONLY state that double regulates farmers production (USDA and State DOA), requiring farmers to get permission to move their crop for any processing or sales. Imagine a papaya or tomato farmer forced to get permission from the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture before selling or processing their crops! The unnecessary paperwork now required by the State and the potential fines for not filing (\$10,000) are the most draconian hemp production rules in the country.
2. Allowing Hawaii Farmers to Sell All Hemp and CBD Products to Hawaii Residents - Hawaii farmers are restricted in selling numerous hemp and CBD products in Hawaii. But these products are regularly purchased online and in stores in Hawaii by Hawaii residents. We're asking the Legislature to allow Hawaii's farmers the same opportunity and access to Hawaii markets that farmers in other states have in Hawaii right now by default.
3. Transparency in Hawaii Hemp Products Labels - We support label transparency for Hawaii consumers, so they know how much Hawaii hemp is in hemp products claiming Hawaii branding. Hawaii farmers have the highest cost of production and living in the country. To support and grow Hawaii's agricultural economy we need to allow consumers the transparent option to buy local, which supports our economy. Right now the CBD industry is extractive, with most of the profits leaving Hawaii.

Thank you for supporting HB 2986.

Aloha,

Gail Byrne Baber
Gail Byrne Baber

hihempfarmers@gmail.com
<https://hihempfarmers.org>



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on SB2986
RELATING TO HEMP

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: 2/2/2022

Room Number: CR224/Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's
2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and
3 personnel priorities.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department offers comments on the recommended amendments
5 to chapter 328G, HRS, proposed in section 3 of this measure (starting on page 8 line 19) . As
6 proposed, the amendments to chapter 328G appear to relieve certain hemp processors from
7 having to register with the Department. A hemp producer meeting the definition of a hemp
8 processor would still be subject to all remaining applicable rules in chapter 11-37, HAR.
9 Without the basic information provided during the registration process (listed in §328G-2(c)),
10 however, the Department would not know where hemp processing operations are occurring,
11 which would impact our ability to inspect for compliance with these public health rules. As
12 such, the Department respectfully requests the removal of section 3 from the bill.

13 Chapter 328G authorized the Department to adopt minimum requirements a hemp processor
14 must meet to ensure they are making safe products for the consumer. Registering as a hemp
15 processor is required only if the facility is processing hemp plant material into hemp products,
16 which are intended to orally supplement the diet or be topically applied to skin or hair and are
17 only allowed in certain forms. Under chapter 11-37, HAR, laboratory testing and labeling
18 requirements must be met before any hemp products are sold to the Hawaii consumer, which
19 includes hemp products both made in Hawaii and made out of state.

- 1 **Offered Amendments:** The Department respectfully requests the removal of section 3 from the
- 2 bill.
- 3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



January 31, 2022

Re: Support SB 2986 with Amendment

Aloha,

SB 2986 will help make Hawaii farmers more competitive. It was a long road for Hawaii's hemp farmers who worked for decades to get hemp legislation passed and our program so far as been overly restrictive and this hyper regulation has put farmers out of business and is the primary reason for the failure of farmers to be able to participate in a booming hemp CBD business in Hawaii.

SB 2986 addresses critical needs of farmers regarding on-farm small batch processing, allowing farmers to process as we did between 2018 and 2021 with no incident. Because all final products are required to be tested for potency and a variety of chemicals, consumers are always safe with Hawaii processed hemp products. Most hemp farmers are small farmers and can't afford the fees of a large processor or giving up 1/2 of their crop as a tolling fee. Most islands don't have processors and sending hemp to other islands or the mainland is expensive. Other Hawaii farm crops are processed and components extracted without onerous regulations, e.g. essential oils from plants.

SB 2986 also reduces unnecessary paperwork burden and fines for paperwork activities that would easily put a farmer out of business, \$10,000. The only fines that should be issued are growing hemp without a license. SB 2986 saves the State money.

Hawaii hemp farmers licenses are issued by and the rules we operate under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Please help reduce the burdensome double regulations we face and support SB 2986 with the following amendment added to page 8 Section 2 as follows:

(g) Hemp producers licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to grow hemp shall follow all inspection and sampling rules and protocols established by the USDA and no other inspections or sampling by the State will be required, nor will the State issue violations or penalties to USDA licensed hemp producers following USDA rules and protocols. Penalties may only be issued for growing hemp without a USDA issued license.

Aloha,

Clarence A. Baber
Clarence A. Baber

SB-2986

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 2:48:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kathleen Newell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill to remove regulations imposed on hemp producers in Hawaii. Hemp farmers/producers should be allowed to sell their hemp biomass directly to any consumers that want it.

I would like to consider building a home in Hawaii with hemp that is grown here. It is ridiculous to have to order industrial hemp from the mainland and have it shipped to Maui when it's already here but access is restricted by archaic regulations.

With Care, Kathleen Newell



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
S.B. NO. 2986, RELATING TO HEMP.

BEFORE THE:
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

DATE: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 **TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Room 224

TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or
Alison S. Kato or Bryan C. Yee, Deputy Attorneys General

Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) is opposing portions of this bill for the following reasons.

The purpose of this bill is to reduce certain requirements and restrictions on the production and sale of hemp in Hawaii, including allowing licensed hemp producers to sell hemp biomass directly to consumers and removing the Hawaii Department of Agriculture's oversight of transportation of hemp. This bill also imposes certain labeling requirements on hemp products.

The Department recommends that the portion of the bill that allows consumers to possess hemp biomass and that eliminates state regulation of hemp transportation should be deleted because of law enforcement concerns.

Among other things, this bill proposes to allow the sale of hemp biomass to consumers without defining what biomass is. The current prohibition against selling hemp biomass to consumers flows from the definition of "marijuana" in chapters 329 and 712, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). Currently, sections 329-1 and 712-1240, HRS, exempt the following from the definition of "marijuana": (1) "mature stalks of the plant (genus) Cannabis, fiber produced from the stalks, oil, or cake made from the seeds of the plant," and other derivatives; (2) hemp that is in the possession, custody, or control of hemp producers or hemp processors; and (3) products containing or derived from hemp that do not include certain living parts of the plant and have a THC content of not more than 0.3 percent.

The effect of this definition is that hemp flower, leaves, and viable seeds are considered marijuana, the possession of which is prohibited unless they are in the possession of licensed hemp producers or processors. The current definition addresses the law enforcement concern that hemp flower is indistinguishable from marijuana. Hemp flowers should, therefore, not be included in the exemption from marijuana in possession of consumers because it would be practically impossible to then enforce marijuana laws and regulations, including medical cannabis laws. Because consumers may already possess the materials described in item (1) above, it is unnecessary to allow consumers to possess hemp biomass.

In addition, the measure removes section 141-42(b), HRS, which requires hemp producers to report any transportation of raw hemp flower to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. As hemp production is regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, if this section is removed, the State will have no way of knowing where hemp flower is or where it is going. This would be problematic for law enforcement, as anyone could ship large amounts of marijuana and there would be no way to know if the shipment contains legal hemp or marijuana without confiscating the carrier and testing the shipment. The current system was set up so that the hemp producer has documentation showing that the shipments are hemp.

It is also important for law enforcement to know where hemp is located, as the processing of hemp can result in concentrated delta-9 Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) isolate, which can then be diverted to the illicit market. Delta-9 THC is the psychotropic compound in cannabis that produces intoxicating effects. While the raw hemp plant material should contain a minimal amount of delta-9 THC, the process used to extract other cannabinoids, such as cannabidiol (CBD) will inevitably leave a byproduct of concentrated THC. Without adequate monitoring in place for law enforcement, that concentrated THC can easily be diverted into illicit markets. For that reason, we recommend not amending section 141-42(b).

Finally, we note that this bill proposes to amend sections 141-42 and 328G-2, HRS, which were enacted as part of Act 14, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2020, and which will be repealed on June 30, 2022. If the intent of the Legislature is to have these statutory amendments remain in effect after June 30, 2022, we recommend the Legislature consider either passing another bill, such as Senate Bill No. 2973, which extends the repeal of Act 14, SLH 2020, from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2024, or inserting an extension in this bill, like section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2973.

For these reasons, we recommend that the amendments on page 6, lines 9-21, and page 8, lines 10-12 be deleted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

SB-2986

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 3:37:24 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Harriet Witt	Testifying for Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

If we want to declare our independence of goods shipped from the mainland, we need this bill. Please support it. Mahalo, Harriet Witt, 43 Puu Koa Place, Haiku, Maui.

February 1, 2022

The Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
The Honorable Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

RE: Senate Bill 2986 – RELATING TO HEMP PRODUCTION
Hearing Date: February 2, 2022

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

My name is Thomas “Scooter” Walsh, and I am the President of South Maui Gardens (“SMG”). SMG would like to thank the committee for hearing Senate Bill 2986, which removes certain duplicative regulations imposed on hemp producers in the State. **SMG strongly supports this measure.**

SMG has been an active agricultural grower on the island of Maui for over ten (10) years. We have over 180,000 square feet of private green house space in Kula, which includes our hemp operations, and operate a full-scale professional nursery in South Kihei, which services local landscapers and private owners, and commercial entities such as hotels, banks and shopping centers. We employ over 60 residents of the County of Maui.

SMG is committed to supporting Hawaii’s agriculture industry and views the hemp industry as a much-needed opportunity to diversify our local economy. Given this, we appreciate this bill's recognition that duplicative and overly burdensome regulations will likely limit the viability of this industry. SMG also is a strong proponent of allowing hemp producers to sell biomass directly to consumers.

Thank you for your service to the State and your strong commitment to Hawaii agriculture and to hemp. We look forward to continuing the conversation with you.

Thomas “Scooter” Walsh

President
South Maui Gardens

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