

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEAN M. MATSUKAWA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025
1:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224

SENATE BILL NO. 763
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Chairs Gabbard and Elefante, Vice Chairs Richards and Wakai and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill No. 763 that establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement Department, establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund, establishes positions and appropriates funds.

The Department of Agriculture (Department) is in strong support of this bill. The Department is ready to assist the DLE in this effort that has plagued the farmers and ranchers statewide.

With great appreciation and respect for the DLE, the Department acknowledges that trespassing is an agricultural crime and will provide "No Trespassing" signs to the DLE, as resources allow.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
DIRECTOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai
715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 763
RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
Before the Senate Committee on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Friday, February 7, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 224, & Videoconference
Testifiers: Mike Lambert

Chairs Gabbard, Elefante, Vice Chairs Richards III, Wakai, and members of the Committees:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 763.

This bill establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement, creates an Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund, and allocates positions to combat agricultural theft and protect agricultural communities across Hawaii.

The DLE recognizes the critical need to address agricultural crimes in Hawaii, which resulted in estimated losses of \$14.4 million in 2019 according to USDA reports. The establishment of this program aligns with our ongoing efforts to protect agricultural communities and builds upon our existing collaboration with stakeholders in local agriculture to address these crimes effectively.

The proposed program will enable the deployment of specialized law enforcement positions across Hawaii, creating a dedicated force to prevent, investigate, and combat

agricultural theft and related crimes. The program will also facilitate crucial partnerships through memoranda of agreement with other agencies, including the Department of Agriculture and Department of Land and Natural Resources, ensuring coordinated efforts in protecting agricultural assets.

This legislation represents a significant step forward in our commitment to protecting Hawaii's agricultural sector and ensuring the security of our food production infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor



Benson Medina
Director

Dennis Lin
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i

DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 1301 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4252
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February 6, 2025

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025
1:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224

TESTIMONY ON SB 763
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and members of the committee:

I am Benson Medina, Director of the Department of Research and Development, County of Hawai'i. One of the agricultural objectives of this department is to "support research, development, control, and education that improves agricultural production, quality, resilience, and producer viability or reduces the impact of pests or disease on agricultural crops, livestock, forests, or the community."

The County of Hawai'i **supports SB 763**, relating to the Department of Law Enforcement, agricultural enforcement program.

Hawai'i County is committed to expanding its production of local produce to feed our residents and tourists. The recent pandemic revealed that our food supply is susceptible to disruptions and puts all of us at risk.

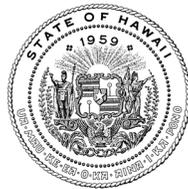
One of the major challenges for our producers to expand production and for new producers to establish their farm is mitigating the risk of agricultural theft. Producers are often threatened by trespassers and thieves, and they do not receive enough support from the local authorities. This threat to life and income has caused potential and established producers to leave the industry.

A strong agricultural theft enforcement program will help the producers to continue their livelihood with the confidence that the incidents of trespass/theft will be reduced over time. This will encourage other potential producers to enter the agricultural industry and for established producers to consider expanding their operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input on this measure.

Sincerely,

Benson Medina
Director



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 763

February 7, 2025
1:00 p.m.
Room 224 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 763 establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Program (AEP) within the Department of Law Enforcement to implement the laws and rules directly related to agricultural crimes; establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund (AESF); appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 26 and FY 27 to be deposited into the AESF; and appropriates an unspecified amount of special funds out of the AESF for FY 26 and FY 27 for the establishment of 45.00 full-time equivalent positions for the AEP. Revenues for the AESF include legislative appropriations, fees, reimbursements, administrative charges, funds from government agencies or private sources, grants, gifts, interest and other income.

As a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the creation of any special fund, which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3, HRS. Special funds should: 1) serve a need as demonstrated by the purpose, scope of work, and an explanation why the program cannot be implemented successfully under the general

fund appropriation process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries or a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue; 3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. Regarding S.B. No. 763, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed special fund would be self-sustaining.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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

February 7, 2025

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

TESTIMONY ON SB 763
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Elefante, Vice-Chairs Elefante and Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

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 supports SB 763, which establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement, establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund, establishes positions, and appropriates funds.

Agricultural crime is a persistent problem facing agriculture. Weather, drought, pests, weeds, disease, unstable markets, transportation, labor issues, and a changing climate all contribute to uncertainty for farmers and ranchers. Few businesses face such challenges, yet we are charged with producing food, feed, fiber, fuel, and flowers for the 99% of non-farmers. Add in the constant threat and impacts of trespass, theft, and vandalism, and it's a wonder farms and ranches remain viable.

Sadly, agricultural crime is a growing trend in Hawai'i. Farmers and ranchers are often victims of those looking for easy targets. Despite our efforts to install cameras, form community ag watch groups, and patrol our farms, these criminals know that being caught and prosecuted is unlikely. Our police departments are trying to help but don't have the staffing and resources to be everywhere at all times.

In recent years, not only crops and livestock have been stolen, but also tractors, trucks, farm equipment, and tools. Too often, a farmer or rancher has sweated, worried, and worked to the bone to produce a crop or raise livestock, only to wake up one morning to find that an opportunistic criminal has helped themselves to the harvest. Farmers and ranchers are fed up with this activity and deserve better. We understand that law enforcement resources are often prioritized for public health and safety. Is a farmer's and his family's health, safety, and livelihood any less important? We think not.

HFB believes a dedicated Agricultural Law Enforcement Program would significantly minimize agricultural crimes and enhance public safety. We hope that this will serve as a deterrent to would-be criminals. An Agricultural Law Enforcement Program will help prevent agricultural crimes and help our farmers and ranchers stay in business.

HFB will continue to work with our policymakers, law enforcement, and the prosecutor's office to find ways to help deter, apprehend, and convict individuals who commit agricultural crimes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important subject.



Officers

Kaipo Kekona
State President

Anabella Bruch
Vice-President

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Secretary

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Clarence Baber
Kohala, Hawaii

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Mason Scharer
Haleakala, Maui

Kaiea Medeiros
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Lahaina, Maui

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Moloka'i

Negus Manna
Lana'i

India Clark
North Shore, Oahu

Christian Zuckerman
Wai'anae, Oahu

Ted Radovich
Waimanalo, Oahu

Vincent Kimura
Honolulu, Oahu

Natalie Urminska
Kauai

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Elefante, Vice Chairs Richards & Wakai, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFU supports SB763.**

The introduction of the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement signifies a committed effort to address the unique challenges faced by Hawaii's farmers. This program will enhance the security and protection of agricultural lands and resources, which are increasingly under threat from theft, vandalism, and other illegal activities. By establishing the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund and dedicated positions, SB763 ensures that the requisite resources are available for effective enforcement and oversight, ultimately providing farmers with the peace of mind necessary to focus on sustainable agricultural practices and innovation.

The establishment of this enforcement program also underscores a critical recognition of the significant contributions that local farmers make to food security, community health, and economic stability. By providing targeted support and protection to the agricultural industry, the program not only helps to sustain existing farming operations but also encourages new farmers to enter the field with the assurance of state support.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin
Advocacy Director
Hawaii Farmers Union



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

SB763

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Friday, February 7, 2025, 1:00PM

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chairs Gabbard and Elefante, Vice Chairs Richards and Wakai, and Members of the Committees, The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports SB763** which establishes the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council and expands the duties of the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with and support the Council, authorizes the Council to withdraw and deposit moneys, revenues, and fines into and out of the Animal Industry Special Fund, and appropriates funds.

Agricultural crimes is a not a new issue – but it is getting more pervasive and more dangerous. So dangerous that we lost a young rancher to illegal trespassing and poaching in 2024. This incident was an incredibly unfortunate incident that we need to keep from happening again. Without the threat of a penalty, ag crimes will continue to flourish, to the detriment of our food producers. There needs to be a clear way for ranchers and farmers to report crimes, and an effective way to prosecute the crime.

Currently, agricultural crimes is not getting the dedicated attention it needs. Reporting of crimes is low, successful prosecution is limited, and criminals have no reason to be deterred from committing the crimes. Creating the Agricultural Enforcement Program will bring more resources to the farmers and ranchers who deal with agricultural crime on a daily basis. This specialized attention within the Department of Law Enforcement will help to address the ongoing trespassing, vandalism and theft on farms and ranches.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure. The Hawaii 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 Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



SB-763

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:28:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments: The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA) supports the intent of SB763 and hopes that passage of this measure will lead to future actions that will help reduce the nightly threat and risk that Hawaii's farmers and ranchers face from trespassers and agricultural thieves.



February 4, 2025

To: Chair Mike Gabbard, Chair Brandon Elefante, Vice Chair Tim Richards, Vice Chair Glenn Wakai, and the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment and Public Safety & Military Affairs

Subject: **SB 763**, Relating to the Department of Law Enforcement

Aloha,

I am writing in **support** of **SB 763**, which asks to establish the Agricultural Enforcement Program as well as the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund. The measure states that the Assistant Chief— an administrator experienced in addressing agricultural theft— shall charge the program by determining the duties and responsibilities of state law enforcement officers in the program.

Our farmers and ranchers, the lifeblood of our local food system, continuously face hefty physical, mental, and financial burdens. In return for all their painstaking efforts to feed our communities, the least we can do is help protect their safety by making an effort to deter agricultural crime, diligently investigate crimes, and enforce laws. Across our islands, farmers and ranchers are concerned about agricultural crime in the forms of trespassing, vandalism, illegal hunting, and theft of equipment, machinery, and crops. Not only do these crimes come with a detrimental monetary expense, but there is also the worry of violence. One year ago this month, in February 2024, agricultural communities experienced a tragedy when a hardworking Makaha rancher lost his life from an alleged trespassing incident.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) released a report in 2020 titled [Hawai'i Agricultural Theft and Vandalism](#) which states that in 2018, losses for theft and vandalism, along with security costs, resulted in a total value of \$14.4 million, which was about 10% of Hawai'i net farm income. The report additionally estimated that the total costs of implementing security measures like cameras, guards, and fencing cost Hawai'i farms \$11.2 million.

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2025, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students and young professionals working in the food system. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Hawaii/Publications/Miscellaneous/AgTheft_2019.pdf
<https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/AGR-SR138-Ag-Crimes.pdf>



From the same [USDA report](#), survey respondents indicated that in 2019, more than 14,000 agricultural crime incidents were trespassing, over 3,000 incidents of theft, and about 1,100 incidents of vandalism. Only 970 of these incidents were reported to law enforcement. As explained by the [Hawai'i Department of Agriculture](#), the lack of reporting is likely due to the difficulty of the process along with staffing issues within law enforcement. Furthermore, these crimes tend to be viewed as low-priority, or result in inconsequential sentencing.

Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers deserve for their livelihood and safety to be treated like priority by law enforcement. There must be more attention put toward deterring and investigating agricultural crime as well as enforcing laws when necessary. It is important to treat these crimes seriously by demonstrating that these heinous actions come with legal consequences.

I urge the committee to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this issue.

Mahalo,
Lea Iaea & the Food+ Policy Team
#fixourfoodsystem

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2025, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students and young professionals working in the food system. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Hawaii/Publications/Miscellaneous/AgTheft_2019.pdf
<https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/AGR-SR138-Ag-Crimes.pdf>

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:26:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Austin Salcedo	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Austin Salcedo and Kalei Salcedo

Kea'au(Oahu) Agriculture Landowner's.

Fully Support Senate Bill 763, and will provide In-person testimony.

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 12:27:54 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire	Testifying for Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Subject: Strong Support for S.B. No. 763 - Enhancing Agricultural Crime Prevention in Hawaii

Dear Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am reaching out to voice my firm support for Senate Bill No. 763, which proposes the establishment of an Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE). This initiative is essential for the protection of our state's agricultural community, which not only underpins our cultural identity but also drives significant economic activity.

The Need for Action:

- **Economic Impact:** A 2019 U.S. Department of Agriculture report highlighted that agricultural theft and vandalism cost Hawaii's farmers an estimated \$14.4 million annually, not including the additional costs for security enhancements.
- **Crime Statistics:** The Hawaii Department of Agriculture's data from 2020 revealed 66 felony agricultural thefts, 30 trespassings, and 48 other related crimes just in Hawaii County, signaling a pressing need for targeted law enforcement.
- **Human Cost:** The tragic event in 2024, where a rancher lost his life on Oahu due to a trespassing dispute, illustrates the potential for these crimes to escalate into violence, necessitating immediate legislative action.

Strengths of S.B. No. 763:

- **Dedicated Focus:** This bill ensures that agricultural crimes, often overshadowed by urban crime priorities, receive direct attention and resources.
- **Sustainable Funding:** The creation of the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund will provide a dedicated pool of funds, sourced from grants, donations, and penalties, ensuring the program's longevity.
- **Community Integration:** Incorporating volunteers who have a stake in agriculture strengthens community ties and leverages local knowledge for crime prevention.
- **Organizational Clarity:** The bill specifies key positions, providing a structured approach to managing and reducing agricultural crime.

Areas for Enhancement:

- **Funding Precision:**
 - **Detailed Appropriation:** To avoid underfunding, the bill should specify exact appropriation amounts. This clarity will also help in planning long-term financial strategies, potentially involving diverse funding sources like federal grants or partnerships with private agricultural organizations to ensure sustainability beyond initial state appropriations.
- **Volunteer Framework:**
 - **Comprehensive Guidelines:** Volunteers should undergo rigorous training akin to that of professional officers, focusing on law, de-escalation techniques, and agricultural specifics. Moreover, clear legal guidelines must define their scope of authority and liability, protecting both volunteers and the community they serve.
- **Inter-agency Coordination:**
 - **Operational Protocols:** To mitigate jurisdictional conflicts, the bill should mandate detailed memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with existing law enforcement agencies. These MOUs should outline roles, communication channels, and conflict resolution processes, ensuring that this new unit complements rather than competes with current forces.
- **Performance Evaluation:**
 - **Metrics and Audits:** Establishing clear, quantifiable goals (e.g., reduction in crime rates by a certain percentage, increase in recovery of stolen agricultural goods) will allow for objective assessment of the program's effectiveness. Regular, independent audits should be instituted to ensure funds are used appropriately and to maintain public trust.
- **Technological Adoption:**
 - **Specific Technological Mandates:** The bill should explicitly encourage the use of technologies like drone surveillance for remote areas, real-time crime mapping, and AI for predictive analytics. This would not only enhance response but also deter potential criminals through visible tech presence.
- **Community Education:**

- Proactive Engagement: Beyond enforcement, a significant part of the program should be dedicated to educating farmers about crime prevention. This could involve workshops on securing assets, recognizing suspicious activities, and the importance of immediate reporting. Such educational efforts could significantly lower crime rates by fostering a proactive community defense.

Examples from Elsewhere:

- Programs in states like California have shown that with targeted enforcement, community involvement, and technology, agricultural crime can be substantially reduced, with one county reporting a 25% decrease in theft after implementing similar initiatives.

I urge you to support S.B. No. 763 with these enhancements to ensure it not only addresses current issues but also sets a sustainable model for agricultural crime prevention. Thank you for considering this crucial legislation for Hawaii's future.

Sincerely,

Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire

Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands

Ke Aupuni o Ko Hawai'i Pae Aina

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:26:28 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 9:07:27 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:44:55 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
penny levin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support! Long overdue.

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:12:19 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erik Horn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill as it is necessary to have deidcated staff resources tasked with solving the ag-theft epedemic in our islands. Without having these dedicated positions, law enforcement agents will be constantly pulled off the task due to other competing staffing needs within law enforcement departments.

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:46:35 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

Crime effects everyone negatively. Agricultural crimes can be some of the most challenging to solve. A specialized police unit is probably in order. I urge the Committee to **SUPPORT** this bill!

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 9:25:11 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Bence	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

Been blessed not to have much trouble so far but support this as ulu coop member, in light of recent tragedies, long standing issues for other farmers and for a safer future I support this bill.

Mahalo

Robert Bence

SB-763

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 11:19:33 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Oliver English	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Am in support of this bill, would like to see Harsh penalties for Ag Crimes and Trespass.