

HB 783, HD1

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT &
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, & MILITARY AFFAIRS**

MARCH 17, 2017
1:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224

HOUSE BILL NO. 783 HD 1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons Gabbard and Nishihara and Members of the Committees:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 783 HD1 which proposes to establish a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the County of Hawaii. The department supports this bill provided it does not impact the department's priorities submitted in the Executive Budget and requests an amendment.

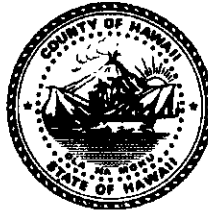
Agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism have been a constant problem for farmers and ranchers on the island of Hawaii, increasing the cost of production and preventing farming operations to be successful. The vast farming land area on the island of Hawaii and limited law enforcement officers make it difficult to capture perpetrators.

If the intent of this bill is for a two-year project, the department respectfully requests that the department be allowed to submit a report of the findings and recommendations to the legislature by December 31, 2019.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy, Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 15, 2017

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental
and Military Affairs
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Committee on Agriculture and
Environment
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairs Nishihara, Gabbard, and Committee Members,

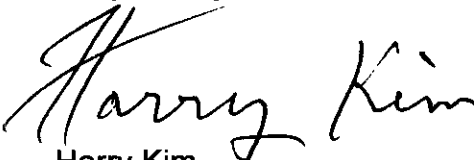
**RE: HB 783 HD 1
Relating to Agriculture**

Theft of agricultural products might have been considered an irritant in olden days, but long ago it became a major issue for many farmers. It is at a level that some farmers have been forced out of business, much to our shame.

HB 783, HD1 offers an approach that might finally bring some relief to those who are trying to make an honest living, feed our community, and improve our economy.

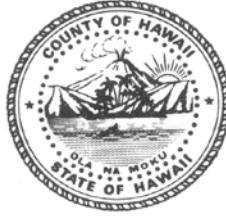
I urge you to approve HB 783 with adequate funding and an appropriate effective date.

Respectfully submitted,


Harry Kim
Mayor

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: (808) 961-0466
FAX: (808) 961-8908
(808) 934-3403
(808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKI'I ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: (808) 322-2552
FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 783, HD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

Friday, March 17, 2017, 1:30 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Honorable Chairs Nishihara and Gabbard, Vice-Chairs Wakai and Riviere, and Members of the Committee Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture and Environment, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of House Bill No. 783, HD1.

This measure establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the County of Hawai'i, and appropriates funds.

Agricultural theft and vandalism in the county of Hawai'i is not only an impediment to running a successful and profitable farming operation, but can also prove harmful to consumers. In 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) halted the importation of all Mexican-sourced papayas into the United States. The FDA found salmonella in about 16% of imported papayas from Mexico and the finding of this human pathogen in papayas caused the FDA to stop the importation of a food-source from the entire country of Mexico. We cannot allow this to happen here. At the time, 65% of all U.S. imported papayas came from Mexico.

An example of recent instances of agriculture vandalism/theft in Hawai'i County have included a total loss of papaya trees numbering into the thousands. These actions resulted in tremendous economic hardships for the farmers and their families. These actions have created an ever-growing a sense of uncertainty for Hawai'i County farmers that they might fall victim to vandals.

Hawai‘i County is the breadbasket of the State. Having the ability to identify and track the sources of agricultural products from field to table is crucial in the event a contamination is found to exist. This pilot project will provide an enforcement officer within the Hawai‘i County with the ability to focus on investigating and prosecuting these agricultural issues, as our over-tasked police department does not have the ability to provide a permanent officer to investigate agricultural crimes.

If this project were allowed to go forward, we would have the ability to:

1. Protect our agricultural industry – the economic engine of Hawai‘i county;
2. Ensure our products do not go the way of the Mexican papaya; and
3. Allow our farmers and growers to continue to be world-wide competitors with Hawai‘i-grown products.

This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai‘i supports the passage of House Bill No. 783, HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, & MILITARY AFFAIRS
Friday, March 17, 2017 — 1:30 p.m. — Room 224

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 783 HD 1, Relating to Agriculture

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports HB 783 HD 1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project on Hawai'i Island, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

In our conversations with farmers and ranchers, one issue that keeps coming up is agricultural theft and how there is little enforcement and punishment for offenders. Agricultural lots are a prime target for thieves as there are many open entry points, farms are often located in rural and isolated areas, and punishments are minor relative to other crimes. For farmers that can afford to, they have to spend money on security infrastructure, monitoring, and manpower to defend their agricultural operations. Profit margins for agricultural operations are already tight and if a business loses revenue from theft or vandalism and has to invest heavily in security, this could push more local farmers and ranchers out of the agricultural sector. Ultimately, this underrated issue is one that hurts our ability to increase locally grown food in our state.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate these committees' efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner



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

March 17, 2017

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

**TESTIMONY ON HB 783, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Room 224
1:30 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Nishihara, Vice Chairs Riviere and Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

I am Randy Cabral, President 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.

HFB strongly supports HB 783, HD1, which would establish a two-year agricultural theft pilot project to work with the county of Hawaii to hire an enforcement officer within the county of Hawaii to focus on investigating and prosecuting agricultural theft.

Agricultural theft and vandalism are persistent problems facing agriculture. Weather, drought, pests, weeds, disease, activists, unstable markets, transportation and 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, 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.

In working with our members, HDOA, and law enforcement, we have collectively concluded that a dedicated enforcement officer housed in the county prosecutor's office would be a giant step forward in minimizing agricultural crimes and enhancing public safety. Too often a farmer or rancher has sweated, worried, and worked to the bone to produce a crop, only to wake up one morning to find that an opportunistic criminal has helped himself to the harvest. Farmers and ranchers are fed up with this activity and frankly, deserve better. We understand that law enforcement resources are often prioritized for public health and safety. Is the health, safety and livelihood of a farmer and his family any less important? We think not.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 4:07 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB783 on Mar 17, 2017 13:30PM*

HB783

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Mar 17, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Rhonda Russell](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:47:10 AM

From: rkrkhonu@gmail.com <Rhonda Russell>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Rhonda Russell

From: [David Christopher](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:22:11 AM

From: dchr@hawaii.edu <David Christopher>

Message:

The costs and work-loads associated with farming are high and the profit margins are slim. The tasks and costs of securing fences around farm-lands are prohibitive. Sadly, farm crops are easy prey for plunder and thievery which can ruin a farmer's ability to make a living. Please support HB 783 HD1. Mahalo David Christopher

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

David Christopher

Honolulu

HI

From: [William Walter](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:17:20 AM

From: wwalter@whshipman.com <William Walter>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

William Walter

Keaau

HI

From: [Ricky Lau](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:30:57 AM

From: piccolo253@aol.com <Ricky Lau>

Message:

We need to support farmers and stop allowing fake, mainland funded groups to spread fear and ignorance.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Ricky Lau

From: [Robert Gandia](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:29:57 AM

From: robert.gandia@outlook.com <Robert Gandia>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Robert Gandia

From: [Guy Ward](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:04:42 AM

From: guybward@gmail.com <Guy Ward>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Guy Ward

From: [Ann Smith](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:01:41 AM

From: annsmith313@hotmail.com <Ann Smith>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Ann Smith

Honokaa

HI

From: [Peggy Farias](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:51:22 AM

From: mefarias@hawaii.edu <Peggy Farias>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Peggy Farias

From: [Micheala Dozier](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:49:38 AM

From: dozier_bob@yahoo.com <Micheala Dozier>

Message:

I support this bill

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Micheala Dozier

Honokaa

HI

From: [Whit Haraguchi](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:59:46 AM

From: hanaleiboy08@gmail.com <Whit Haraguchi>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Whit Haraguchi

From: [Jon Tanouye](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:40:35 AM

From: jontanouye@gmail.com <Jon Tanouye>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Jon Tanouye

From: [Stephanie Mock](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:06:19 AM

From: stephanie.k.mock@gmail.com <Stephanie Mock>

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Stephanie Mock

From: [John Gordines](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 783, HD1 - Relating to Agriculture
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:55:43 AM

From: gordines@kauaiflowers.com <John Gordines >

Message:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday March 17, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:30 PM

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 783, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on PSM and AEN;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of AEN:

I support HB 783 HD1, which establishes a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot project to examine the effectiveness of prosecuting agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism in the county of Hawaii.

Agricultural theft is a huge issue facing farmers in Hawaii; it is a direct obstacle to farmers continued success. This pilot project has the capability to increase the safety and sustainability of our farming and agricultural industry by allowing farmers to focus less on the security of their crops and more on high-quality products and safe farming techniques. By having a committed investigator when crime, vandalism, or contamination of our agricultural products occur, we will be able to act swiftly and decisively to tackle the issues.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

John Gordines

Kapaa

HI