DAVID Y. IGE Governor

JOSH GREEN Lt. Governor



# 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 WATER & LAND

MARCH 13, 2019 1:20 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 229

# HOUSE BILL NO. 451 HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Chairperson Kahele and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 451 HD1. This bill appropriates funds to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) to assist with its staffing and operating costs. The Department of Agriculture supports this bill, but ultimately defers to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Proper conservation practices are essential to a farmer's success, and conservation plans are an important tool for farmers to use in order to maximize soil retention by implementing erosion and sediment control best management practices. HACD can provide farmers with the technical expertise needed to create their own conservation plans. With an approved conservation plan, farmers will be able to attain necessary permissions prior to clearing and grading their land to prepare it for planting and to put new lands into production. HACD provides an important service for the State of Hawaii and deserves consistent funding moving forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID V. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





# STATE OF HAWAII

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**Testimony of** SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

**Before the Senate Committee on** WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 13, 2019 1:20 P.M. **State Capitol, Conference Room 229** 

# In consideration of **HOUSE BILL 451, HOUSE DRAFT 1** RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

House Bill 451, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate an unspecified amount of general revenues for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the Executive Budget Request and offers the following comments.

The purpose of the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Program is to educate, construct, maintain, and assist in the development of conservation plans to protect soil and water resources statewide. Each SWCD is operated by a five-member volunteer board. HACD is an umbrella organization formed by the 16 SWCDs under Chapters 180 and 180C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and administratively attached to the Department. The Department notes that the SWCD Program has historically been general funded, and it does not have a base budget appropriation, therefore funding would be required for the continuance of their activities. The annual funding request for the program is \$500,000.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

## SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESQUECES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

LAND STATE PARKS



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 13, 2019

# HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

# TESTIMONY ON HB 451, HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 229 1:20 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports HB 451, HD1, which provides funding for the staffing and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HFB appreciates the support provided by the legislature to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. This program is an excellent example of successful public-private partnerships that bring benefit not just to farmers and ranchers, but to everyone in the State of Hawaii.

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts were founded by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. It was natural for them to protect the resources that provided nutrients for the growth of their crops and raising livestock.

Over the years, the Districts have also originated major water projects across the State bringing in Federal dollars to be matched by State resources. Today, we have two projects remaining and HACD continues to work with our Congressional Delegation to complete the Upcountry Dual line and the Lahaina Flood Control Projects. Drought mitigation is a major concern for farmers and ranchers. We are constantly looking for ways in which we can partner with USDA NRCS to implement programs in Hawaii.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with the preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities is much broader. As part of the National Association of Conservation Districts, we have access to material that can help state agencies meet regulatory requirements. For example, those Counties involved in MS4 or Municipal Stormwater requirements by EPA, have education requirements.

Each year, there is a focus area across the country. In 2017 topic was "Where does your Watershed?". The purpose of this outreach program was to educate children about where water comes from and the need to be cognizant about practices, such as oil discharges from your cars that may end up in the storm drain or dumping hazardous wastes where it can end up in streams. Programs like these are adopted by each district as part of their outreach. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

Another example is Soil Judging. Each year, students across the state enter a contest to test their abilities to correctly identify, evaluate, classify, and describe soil profiles and their applicability for various uses including housing. Did you know that Hawaii students have consistently placed in National competitions that take place in Oklahoma each year? Through these experiences, students have developed an interest in pursuing careers in agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:20:00 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By    | Organization                              | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Warren Watanabe | Testifying for Maui<br>County Farm Bureau | Support               | No                    |



March 8, 2019

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Water and Land

Comments in Support of HB 451, HD1, Relating to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (Makes an appropriation for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts [HACD]).

Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 1:20 p.m., in Conference Room 229

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to submit comments regarding, and a recommended amendment to **HB 451**, **HD1**.

**HB 451, HD1.** This bill proposes to appropriate funds from the State's General Fund for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the HACD.

<u>LURF's Position</u>. Members of LURF are participants of the HACD, which is comprised of sixteen districts representing each community on all major islands of Hawaii. Testimony has been presented to the Legislature confirming that the HACD is authorized by law to operate as government subdivisions to educate the public and construct and maintain conservation projects and programs in Hawaii, and that the HACD has worked to improve Hawaii's environment and economy through collaborative efforts with partners and government agencies that have brought millions of dollars to the State to improve farm practices, reduce erosion, improve ocean and drinking water quality, fight invasive species, improve public safety, protect property, conserve water, and strengthen the economy.

Senate Committee on Water and Land March 8, 2019 Page 2

The HACD reportedly also provides educational and community support for conservation awareness, participate in resource conservation and development projects with high school programs statewide, and also introduces conservation principles in elementary schools.

LURF understands, however, that the HACD unfortunately does not have a base budget appropriation under the budget of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and that an appropriation is necessary to provide necessary funding in order that the HACD may continue its important activities.

The lack of funding for the HACD results in many negative impacts on agriculture at a time when staunch efforts are being made to build and support the agricultural industry in Hawaii. Funding shortages limit the services and assistance provided by the HACD, which are invaluable to farmers and to the economic viability of agriculture in this State.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 451**, **HD1** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:39:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization                                | Testifier<br>Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Dale Sandlin | Testifying for Hawaii<br>Cattlemens Council | Support               | No                 |

## SUPPORT HB 451

Date: March 11, 2019

Submitted: Brenda Dianne Iokepa-Moses, HACD President, Ka'u Soil and Water Conservation, Chairperson.

HACD humbly requests the continued legislature's support of our mission by supporting HB451 with amendments.

The Soil and Water Conservation District help our farming communities with their outreach in providing education and services at no charge to the farmer to help in protecting our streams and reefs, keeping our ocean clean so ocean floral and fauna can thrive and assisting in preventing soil erosion. The SWCDs are your boots on the ground. We leverage federal and county resources along with countless volunteer hours to accomplish our mission. Every dollar of funding from the State is multiplied many times when services are delivered.

The case notes relating to HRS 180C reference the public trust duties imposed on the State under article XI, §1 of the Hawaii constitution mandating that the State and counties have an obligation to conserve and protect the State's natural resources. While many reference conservation plans for farmers and ranchers, our largest projects have involved protecting communities from flooding such as Happy Valley and work to identify sources of sediment entering the Ala Wai canal contributing to efforts currently underway with the Army Corps of Engineers.

There has been questions about the transfer of the districts to HDOA. While the origin of the SWCDs lies in agriculture beginning in the 1930s and our original home was in HDOA, responsibility was transferred to DLNR in 1967 with the recognition of the greater role beyond agriculture played by the districts.

DLNR's mission is to "The overall mission of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement is to promote the safe and responsible use of Hawaii's natural resources."

HACD's mission "to help protect and sustain Hawai'i's natural environment."

It appears to us that our goals are the same. Inferences have been provided that we belong in HDOA rather than DLNR. We believe these statements are borne out of not fully understanding the role of districts. The districts were originally created to fulfill the mission of DLNR on the ground.

Chapter 180 further clarifies our source of funding.

§180-16 Budget. The department of land and natural resources shall submit to the director of finance, annually the budgetary estimates and information required by chapter 37, and shall include therein estimates of the financial requirements of the department.

HACD annually submits our budget to DLNR. As our request is not included in the DLNR budget we have requested the Legislature to appropriate the needed funds. We respectfully request that the HACD budget of \$500K be included in the DLNR operating funds as part of their budget rather than our need to submit it as a separate item each year, taking up valuable legislature time.

HACD and all of our districts appreciates your support every year and respectfully requests your support again by amending the measure to include HACD in the DLNR budget as a recurring item.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brenda Dianne Jokepa-Moses

HACD- President (Hawaii Islands)

Ka'u SWCD - Chairperson



# HAW ALL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS HAW ALL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS USING AVAILABLE TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL

RESOURCES TO MEET THE CONSERVATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S USERS.



### **TESTIMONY**

## **HB 451: Relating to Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

Senate Committee on Water and Land Room 229 1:20 PM

March 13, 2019

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) appreciates the legislature's continuous support of our mission. HACD again requests your support with HB 451, providing funding to HACD. We humbly humble request your support with an amendment to the measure, which would allow HACD's budget request to be placed within DNLR's budget as a recurring item.

Many speak about protecting our streams and reefs... Keeping our ocean clean, helping marine floral and fauna thrive. The Hawaii Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) are your boots on the ground to achieving these goals. We help with the necessary steps involved in protecting, preserving and improving Hawaii's natural environment. We do this by leveraging federal and county resources, along with countless volunteer hours to accomplish our mission. Every dollar of funding received from the State, is multiplied many times over with each of the services that we deliver.

The case notes relating to HRS 180C reference the public trust duties imposed on the State under article XI, §1 of the Hawaii constitution mandating that the State and counties have an obligation to conserve and protect the State's natural resources. While many reference the conservation plans that we have successfully provide for our farmers and ranchers, our largest projects have involved protecting whole communities from flooding, such as Happy Valley. Along with work to identify sources of sediment entering the Ala Wai canal and contributing efforts currently underway with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Questions have surfaced regarding the transfer of HACD and the SWCDs to the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture (HDOA). While the origin of HACD and the SWCDs lie in agriculture, beginning in the 1930s with our home originating under HDOA, recognition of our greater role beyond agriculture led to our transfer to the Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) in 1967.

DLNR's mission: "The overall mission of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement is to promote the safe and responsible use of Hawaii's natural resources."

HACD's mission: "...to help protect and sustain Hawaii's natural environment."

It appears to us that our goals are the same. While inferences have been made that we belong under HDOA, rather than DLNR, we believe these statements are borne out of lack to fully understand the role of HACD and the SWCDs. The districts were originally created to fulfill the mission of DLNR on the ground.

Chapter 180 further clarifies our source of funding:

§180-16 Budget. The department of land and natural resources shall submit to the director of finance, annually the budgetary estimates and information required by chapter 37, and shall include therein estimates of the financial requirements of the department.

HACD annually submits our budget to DLNR. As our request is not included in the DLNR budget, we have requested the Legislature to appropriate the needed funds. We respectfully request that the HACD budget of \$500K be included in the DLNR operating funds as part of their budget, rather than take up valuable legislature time with our need to submit it as a separate item each year.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs appreciate your support every year and respectfully request your support again by amending the measure to include HACD in the DLNR budget as a recurring item.

Thank you for your consideration. If there are questions, please contact HACD Legislative Chairperson, Mae Nakahata, or HACD Executive Director, Michelle Watkins, at 808-214-5388.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:42:42 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization  | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Jason Hew    | Testifying for Maui Soil & Water Conservation Districts | Support               | No                    |

# HB-451-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:08:59 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization   | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|---------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Hannah Lutgen | Testifying for Maui Soil & Water Conservation District | Support               | No                    |

## Comments:

On behalf of Maui Soil & Water Conservation District I strongly support state general funds to be placed into the DLNR budget on a recurring basis. It's imperative that government agencies remain neutral. Furthermore, the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts depend on state general funds to malama aina.



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:22:55 PM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By      | Organization   | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Leonard J. Vierra | Testifying for East Kauai<br>Soil & Water<br>Conservation District | Support               | No                    |



Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council

Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation

Hawai'i Farmers' Union United

Hawai'i Food Industry Association

Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai'i

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden Network

Ulupono Initiative

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources - University of Hawai'i at Manoa

# SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND Wednesday, March 13, 2019 – 1:20 PM - Room 229

# RE: HB 451 HD1 - Relating to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts – In Support

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

The Local Food Coalition **strongly supports HB 451 HD1**, which makes an appropriation for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawaii's food supply.

The Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) and the 16 Hawaii Soil and Water Conservations Districts (SWCD) play an important role in improving farm practices and ensuring the protection of Hawaii's environment. They assist farmers and ranchers with technical support, development and implementation of conservation plans, outreach and education. All of the SWCD Directors are volunteers. The demands of the HACD have increased and legislature's support of this \$500,000 request is vital to enable the HACD to continue its programs.

We respectfully request your support of HB 451 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

John Garibaldi 808-544-8319 jgaribaldi@wik.com



Email: communications@ulupono.com

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND Wednesday, March 13, 2019 — 1:20 p.m. — Room 229

# Ulupono Initiative <u>Strongly Supports</u> HB 451 HD 1, Relating to the Hawai'i Association of Conservation Districts

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawaiʻi-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawaiʻi by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. 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** <u>strongly supports</u> **HB 451 HD 1**, which provides funding to the Hawai'i Association of Conservation Districts (HACD), because it aligns with our goal to increase local food production.

The O'ahu chapter of HACD, the O'ahu Resource Conservation and Development Council, developed the 808 Planner tool via funding from Ulupono. This tool helps farmers and ranchers by creating customized online conservation plans with expedited approval. The conservation plans are designed to improve farming techniques and minimize environmental damage. HACD plays an integral part in keeping Hawai'i's agriculture land in a quality state.

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

We believe that through collaboration, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay Managing Partner LARRY JEFTS FARMS, LLC PO BOX 27 KUNIA, HAWAII 96759 (808) 688-2892

HB 451hd1, Relating to Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts

Sen WTL Hearing

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

1:20 pm

Conference Room 229

Testimony by: Larry Jefts Position: Support

Chair Kahele and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Sen WTL Committee:

I am Larry Jefts, owner and operator of Larry Jefts Farms, LLC, which is part of our family-run business of farms on Oahu and Molokai, under the administrative umbrella of Sugarland Growers, Inc. We have more than 35 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. I am a volunteer director for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

The SWCD framework and authority were created through HRS 180. It helps farmers and ranchers with conservation plan development as well as assist respective County governments' with grading permit and plan reviews. Throughout the State, 80 volunteer directors in 16 SWCD work with local area partners to accomplish its work that includes conservation and environmental education outreach.

Your support of this funding request will go far toward strengthening environmental stewardship of agriculture soil and water use, particularly as Hawaii welcomes many new farmers and ranchers. It will also facilitate eligibility of farmers and ranchers for federal and state programs that require conservation plans and its implementation at the farm or ranch level.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:59:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By   | Organization                       | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Harry von Holt | Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch, Ltd | Support               | No                    |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:19:22 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By   | Organization                                | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Chris Manfredi | Testifying for Hawaii<br>Coffee Association | Support               | No                    |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:42:09 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization                                     | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Autumn Ness  | Testifying for Hawai'i<br>Center for Food Safety | Support               | No                    |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:26:12 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By      | Organization        | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |   |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Karen Ah Mai/HACD | Testifying for HACD | Support               | Yes                   | l |

# Comments:

We are in strong support of HB 451 HD 1.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:43:02 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization                    | Testifier<br>Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Helmut Klauer | Testifying for A'a Li'i<br>Farm | Support               | No                 |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:12:08 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization                         | Testifier<br>Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Reba O'Day   | Testifying for Birds With Arms Farms | Support               | No                 |

# Comments:

As a small family farm, we support this bill and ask that you do as well.

Mahalo.



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/13/2019 10:35:51 AM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization   | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|---------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| John C. Cross | Testifying for Ka'u Soil & Water Conservation District | Support               | No                    |

# HB-451-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:35:15 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |  |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| J Ashman     | Individual   | Support               | No                    |  |

## Comments:

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

I strongly support HB 451, HD 1 to provide funds for HACD.

Farmers and others need HACD to help them implement conservation practices to protect Hawaii's natural resources. Everyone benefits from the work that HACD does.

Thank you for your continuing support of Hawaii's farmers and ranchers.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:37:45 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

|   | Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |  |
|---|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Ī | Maggie Kramp | Individual   | Support               | No                    |  |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:23:44 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By    | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Leslie Takayama | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

# HB-451-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:59:07 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By   | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |   |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Scott Crawford | Individual   | Support               | No                    | Ī |

# Comments:

I support conservation districts and the valuable support they provide to our landowners and farmers in developing conservation plans, seeking support through the farm bill, etc.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:04:22 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |   |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Keith Ranney | Individual   | Support               | No                    | ĺ |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:26:35 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Kanoe Malani | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:24:14 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |  |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Steven Forman | Individual   | Support               | No                    |  |

# HB-451-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:58:59 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mary Robblee | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

### Comments:

Please support this bill. More farmers could be helped. Did you know there is a terrible pest in the Kona mauka pastures? It is called the Two-lined Spittlebug (TLSP) and last year it destroyed thousands of acres of pasture grass leaving the soil available for erosion. This potential needs to be mitigated. The Kona SWCD produces a newsletter and the cover article in the next edition, scheduled for release at the end of March, has to do with the TLSP. Please help us help our farmers and ranchers. Thank you.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:11:16 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Lois Crozer  | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:28:19 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |  |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Ken Stover   | Individual   | Support               | No                    |  |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:30:24 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| William South | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:53:56 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Harriet Witt | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

# Comments:

We need this is we want to feed ourselves without depending on the mainland.

<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:03:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By     | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Hunter Heaivilin | Individual   | Support               | No                    |



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 2:16:29 PM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Christy Tao  | Individual   | Support               | No                    |



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:58:53 PM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Barbara Barry | Individual   | Support               | No                    |



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:49:40 PM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | itted By Organization |         | Present at<br>Hearing |  |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|
| Andrea Quinn | Individual            | Support | No                    |  |

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB451.

Thank you for your time.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2019 3:35:59 PM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By    | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Dennis F Lokmer | Individual   | Support               | No                    |



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/13/2019 10:41:36 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Ryan Belcher | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

Comments:

I support HB451.



<u>HB-451-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/13/2019 11:09:07 AM Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By      | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Aileen K . F. Yeh | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

I strongly support HB 451, HD 1, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HACD was created by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. They saw the importance of protecting resources, which provides nutrients for crops and livestock.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with the preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities is much broader. Their activities include education and outreach to farmers and ranchers. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

## **MULTIPLE TESTIFIERS**

| 1. John Gordines   | 2. Alex Franco            | 3. Jeffrey McCall              |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4. Mark O'Connor   | 5. Kenneth Kaneshiro      | 6. Dawn Bicoy                  |
| 7. Alan Tada       | 8. Alvin Tsuruda          | <ol><li>Verna Kuyper</li></ol> |
| 10. Joanna Nobriga | 11. Patricia Iwamoto      | 12. Melvin Matsuda             |
| 13. Laila Jayyousi | 14. Sharon Iwasaki        | 15. Rodrigo Balala             |
| 16. Efren Abellera | 17. Joni Kamiya           | 18. Randy Cabral               |
| 19. Clyde Fukuyama | 20. Diane Chuensanguansat | 21. Robert Paull               |
| 22. Jess Ivey      | 23. Valerie Correa        | 24. Melvin Kunitake            |
| 25. Barry Kim      | 26. Yarrow Flower         | 27. Helena Miguel              |
| 28. Jamie Barton   | 29. Luly Unemori          | 30. Sarah Styan                |
| 31. Dean Okimoto   | 32. Stefanie Delmont      | 33.                            |



Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

### **MULTIPLE TESTIFIERS**

| 1. John Tavares     | 2. Sherwood Conant | 3. Susan Miyasaka |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 4. Michelle Watkins | 5.                 | 6.                |