# TESTIMONY GM 372

## Duane C.K. Lau 46-172 Yacht Club St.

### Kaneohe, HI 96744-3638

Ph: (808) 864-6105 / Fax: (808) 247-0242

mwah@hawaii.rr.com

3/29/10

Senator Clayton Hee Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs c/o Sesnita Moepono - hee2@capitol.hawaii.gov

This letter is a response to the March22 letter from your office - Re: Governor's Message No. 372, Nomination to the Board of Directors for the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

A brief resume is attached to this letter for your reference. The following is a written statement to answer the questions in the nomination letter.

I was asked by Alfredo Lee (former Board member and President with the Hawaii Food Manufacturers Association) to serve as a member of ADC. From my brief involvement with ADC so far, it appears that members focus on issues important to the viability of Agriculture in Hawaii. I am presently operating the May's Wonder Gardens hydroponic lettuce farm in Haleiwa. As a small Oahu farmer, my perspective looks at the impact of decisions and how they affect local farmers. As a board member I recognize the responsibility to step back and look at the bigger statewide picture, but tempered by common sense and community awareness. I claim no special qualifications or knowledge, other than 40 plus years experience in the food industry. Prior to the lettuce farm my family owned and operated Palama Meat Co, Inc. which was heavily involved in the Cattle and livestock industry statewide.

I have no agenda or goal to accomplish during my term of service. My only hope is to contribute in whatever perspective I can, providing a voice for small farmers, and hopefully not embarrassing myself or the North Shore agricultural community.

I served briefly as the Western Regional director for the American Association of Meat Processors when I was affiliated with Palama Meat. This national association worked with the USDA to implement HACCP for all federally inspected meat processors. If I had to choose one previous experience to distinguish myself for consideration, it would be my time served with this organization. AAMP is the largest trade association for the American Meat industry. I was able to work with members from "mom and pop" stores all the way to multi-national corporations. It made me realize the importance of balancing issues, seeing things from "both sides".

Issues that affect the North Shore farming community could potentially have a conflict of interest if a vote was required. If such an issue were to arise, I would of course abstain from voting.

I hope this information provided is sufficient for the committee.

Respectfully Submitted:

Duane C.K. Lau



SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

> DUANE K. OKAMOTO Deputy to the Chairperson

# State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

# TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Wednesday, March 31, 2010 3:15 p.m. Room 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 372
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, DUANE C.K. LAU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2014

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) is in strong support for the consideration and confirmation of Mr. Duane Lau for another four-year term to the ADC board of directors. Mr. Lau is currently serving as Chairperson of the ADC Administrative Sub-Committee and throughout his initial four-year term regularly attended and participated in board meetings.

Mr. Lau received a BA in Business Administration from the University of San Francisco. He is currently Vice President of Sales and Marketing for May's Wonder Garden and also works in management with Hawaiian Candies & Nuts, Inc. Previously he was the Vice President of Production at Palama Meat Company.

Mr. Lau is a past president of the Hawaii Food Manufacturer's Association, past Western Region Director of the American Association of Meat Processors a member of the Rural Economic Transition Assistance-Hawaii (RETA-H) board, and a member of the Meat and Poultry Association of Hawaii. He is actively involved with the Eucharistic ministry, liturgical ministry, and music ministry at St. Ann's Church.



# STATE OF HAWAII AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205 Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

# TESTIMONY OF ALFREDO LEE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 31, 2010 3:15 p.m. Room 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 372
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DUANE C.K. LAU,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2014

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) is in strong support for the consideration and confirmation of Duane Lau for another four-year term to the ADC board of directors. Mr. Lau has a strong agriculture and food industry background, currently involved with managing May's Wonder Garden, a hydroponic lettuce farm, and Menehune Mac Chocolate Company. He is also the former Vice President of Production at Palama Meat, and is very knowledgeable regarding water quality and food safety.

He was past president of the Hawaii Food Manufacturer's Association, a member of the Rural Economic Transition Assistance-Hawaii (RETA-H) board,

Page 2 of 2 Testimony of Alfredo Lee Governor's Message No. 372

past Western Region Director of the American Association of Meat Processors, and a member of the American Meat Institute. He continues to be very active with Boy Scouts of America and St. Ann's Church on Oahu.

Mr. Lau is currently serving as Chairperson of the ADC Administrative Committee and regularly attends and contributes to board meetings. He will continue to be a valuable member of the ADC board.

Thank you.



# mehume Hawaiian Candies & Nuts, Ltd.

707-A Wajakamilo Road · Honolulu, H1 96817-4312 Tel: (808) 841-3344 · Fax: (808) 841-2551

TESTIMONY OF NEAL ARAKAKI
PRESIDENT, HAWAIIAN CANDIES & NUTS, LTD.
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

March 29, 2010

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 372
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DUANE C.K. LAU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2014

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

Hawaiian Candis & Nuts, Ltd. is in strong support for the consideration and confirmation of Duane Lau for another four-year term to the ADC board of directors. Mr. Lau has a strong agriculture and food industry background, currently involved with managing May's Wonder Garden, a hydroponic lettuce farm, and Menehune Mac Chocolate Company. He is also the former Vice President of Production at Palama Meat, and is very knowledgeable regarding water quality and food safety.

He was past president of the Hawaii Food Manufacturer's Association, a member of the Rural Economic Transition Assistance-Hawaii (RETA-H) board, past Western Region Director of the American Association of Meat Processors, and a member of the American Meat Institute. He continues to be very active with Boy Scouts of America and St. Ann's Church on Oahu.

Mr. Lau is currently serving as Chairperson of the ADC Administrative Committee and regularly attends and contributes to board meetings. He will continue to be a valuable member of the ADC board.

Thank you.

Neal Arakaki, President Hawaiian Candies & Nuts, Ltd.



Date: March 29, 2010

TO:

THE 2010 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM:

Paula Hegele, President, Tedeschi Vineyards, Ltd.

RE:

Testimony on GM 372

For Consideration and Confirmation of Duane Lau ADC Board of Directors - Term to Expire 06-30-2014

I would like to provide my strong support for your consideration and confirmation of Duane Lau to another four- year term to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) board of directors.

As a recent appointee to the ADC board of directors, I have a new realization and understanding for the commitment and the complex matters of the ADC board. Duane Lau's familiarity as a past member of the board is an asset to ADC's ongoing projects and effectiveness. Both his work and personal experience in agriculture provide a valuable position to the ADC board. Please approve Duane Lau's continued service to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Sincerely,

Paula J. Hegele President From:

Sam Lee [kauaibonsai@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Monday, March 29, 2010 1:46 PM

To: Cc: WTLTestimony alfredo lee

Subject:

support for the re-confirmation of two individuals to the board of directors - agribusiness

development corporation

To:

Honorable Clayton Hee

Chairperson, Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture

and Hawaiian Affairs

From:

Sam Lee

Subject:

Testimony in support of the confirmation of Duane C.K. Lau (GM 372) and

David G. Rictow (CM 273) for second terms as members of the

Board of Directors, AgriBusiness Development Corporation.

Date, Time,

March 31, 2010, 3:15 PM, Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Place:

### Gentlemen:

I am pleased to submit testimony on behalf of the re-appointment of Duane Lau and David Rietow to the ADC board. Both gentlemen have long and successful histories in Hawaii agriculture. Their resumes speak for themselves. Their experience and knowledge has been a important asset in the furtherance of the mission of ADC. Please re-appoint them.

# TESTIMONY GM 372 (END)