

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

919 Ala Moana Blvd. 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**TED SAKAI**  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

**Martha Torney**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Max Otani**  
Deputy Director  
Corrections

**Keith Kamita**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 154 HD1  
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO  
INDUSTRIAL HEMP

By  
Ted Sakai, Interim Director  
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 13, 2013, 2:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 325

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) would like to **comment** on House Bill 154 HD1 which would authorize the Chair of the Board of Agriculture to establish an industrial hemp pilot program provided that the USDOJ, Drug Enforcement Administration, issues the chair a Federal Controlled Substance Registration for the pilot program.

The Department would like to bring to attention that anyone seeking to do research with marijuana/cannabis hemp must apply for a controlled substance registration with both the State's Narcotics Enforcement Division and the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration as a "researcher." A person registered to conduct research with a basic class of controlled substances listed in Schedule I shall be authorized to manufacture or import such class if and to the extent that such manufacture or importation is set forth in the research protocol submitted at the time of registration.

The term "manufacturer" means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion, or processing of a controlled substance, either directly or

indirectly by extraction from substances of natural origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container, except that this term does not include the preparation or compounding of a controlled substance by an individual for the individual's own use or the preparation, compounding, packaging, or labeling of a controlled substance:

- (1) By a practitioner as an incident to the practitioner's administering or dispensing of a controlled substance in the course of the practitioner's professional practice, or
- (2) By a practitioner, or by the practitioner's authorized agent under the practitioner's supervision, for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis and not for sale.

In order to complete the process of registration as a researcher of controlled substances, the DEA and State considers certain criteria. These criteria include:

- (1) Maintenance of effective controls against diversion of controlled substances into other than legitimate medical, scientific, or industrial channels;
- (2) Compliance with applicable state and local law;
- (3) Any convictions of the applicant under any federal and state laws relating to any controlled substance;
- (4) Past experience in the manufacture or distribution of controlled substances, and the existence in the applicant's establishment of effective controls against diversion;
- (5) Furnishing by the applicant of false or fraudulent material in any application filed under this chapter;
- (6) Suspension or revocation of the applicant's federal registration to manufacture, distribute, prescribe or dispense controlled substances as authorized by federal law; and

- (7) Any other factor relevant to and consistent with the public health and safety.

Controlled substance registration under Federal and State law does not entitle a registrant to manufacture, dispense, prescribe, and distribute controlled substances in Schedule I or II other than those specified in the registration.

A controlled substance registration is necessary due to the fact that under Chapter 329-1 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes there is no distinction made between the plant genus Cannabis which both hemp and Marijuana are part of. State law defines "Marijuana" as all parts of the plant (genus) Cannabis whether growing or not; the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin. It does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil, or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted there from), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant that is incapable of germination. The law focuses on the THC content of the plant genus Cannabis with a level over 0%.

Under present federal and state law, any cannabis plant with a tetrahydrocannabinol level over zero percent is considered marijuana a hallucinogenic Schedule I controlled substance and cannot be manufactured for sale to the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



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

**TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND  
COMMERCE**

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

2:30 P.M.

Conference Room 325

**HOUSE BILL NO. 154 HD 1  
RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP**

Chairperson McKelvey and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 154 HD 1. This bill would authorize the Chair of the Board of Agriculture to establish an industrial hemp remediation pilot program. The Department supports the intent of the bill but has concerns.

The Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this measure, provided that the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issues the Chair of the Board of Agriculture a federally-controlled substance registration for the remediation pilot program. While the DEA has issued a similar registration to grow industrial hemp in the past, approval from the DEA may be much harder to obtain today.

The Department would also like to broaden the discussion to include other potential stakeholders such as the University of Hawaii who may have more expertise in the science revolving around phytoremediation.

Finally, the Department is concerned about the blank appropriation amount that leaves uncertainty as to the final financial cost that the Department will have to bear.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony in favor of HB154, HD2

Harry Ako  
Professor and chair, Department of Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering  
University of Hawaii – Manoa  
February 11, 2013

From 1999 to 2003, as a University of Hawaii biologist specializing in Biochemistry and Biotechnology, I was involved with the Hawaii Industrial Hemp Research Project. From that experience, I know that industrial hemp can be successfully cultivated here, and that it can be done inexpensively.

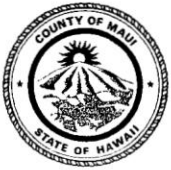
An experimental plot for industrial hemp on Oahu would be inexpensive, even more so if we used UH-Manoa students as workers. In return, the project would provide the students with invaluable experience.

I estimate that the cost for a two-year industrial hemp remediation project would be about \$60,000 per year (this figure includes plants and other materials).

This work would be a fortuitous partnership between expertise developed over the years between CTAHR (College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa), partner environmental managers, and the private sector including the fashion design industry, which could help generate an industrial hemp-based clothing industry in Hawaii. The two-year project would take place on a quarter-acre site initially. This would be large enough to expand the preliminary studies of industrial hemp grown in pots to industrial hemp grown in fields.

Industrial hemp could take up and remove combustion product contaminants such as benzopyrene from the environment. These would include operations such as H-Power, the oil refinery, and military operations. Size wise, only permitting would limit our size because CTAHR is developing agronomic expertise and infrastructure for plants that grow faster than weeds in its federally funded bioenergy research. CTAHR also has connections with the environmental

engineering companies in the State and can expand to other contaminants, including heavy metal and other organic contaminants. The baseline for all these studies is our world-class expertise in environmental chemistry and biochemistry.



**ALAN M. ARAKAWA**  
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE  
YOUR REFERENCE

# **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **COUNTY OF MAUI**

**55 MAHALANI STREET**  
**WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793**  
**(808) 244-6400**  
**FAX (808) 244-6411**



**GARY A. YABUTA**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**CLAYTON N.Y.W. TOM**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

February 11, 2013

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: House Bill No. 154, HD1, RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP

Dear Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committee:

The Maui Police Department **OPPOSES** the passing of H.B. No. 154, HD1, Relating to Industrial Hemp Research. This proposed bill allows privately funded industrial hemp research to be conducted in Hawaii under certain conditions; requiring monitoring by the department of public safety, requiring reporting to county law enforcement; exempting agronomic data derived from research from public records disclosure; conferring immunity for criminal prosecution for the research has several problematic issues that the Maui Police Department is opposed to.

The first issue regarding the growing of industrial hemp is the problem law enforcement faces when trying to determine the difference of industrial hemp and marijuana while enforcing existing marijuana laws. Though industrial hemp may have less THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) than "street" marijuana in its dried form, industrial hemp is almost indistinguishable from dried "street" marijuana unless there is additional costly laboratory testing for the total THC content to tell the difference. This type of testing is time consuming and not readily available to officers on the street while they are busy enforcing laws and protecting the public.

The next issue is the prohibitive costs in resources and manpower attached with this bill. In order to adhere to the proposed section of the bill that would have county law enforcement keep track of these privately owned facilities, we would need to expend resources and manpower to protect these facilities, respond to emergencies, and assign personnel to keep track of data, all for a "private" entity. With resources and manpower for almost all county law enforcement agencies in our state stretched thin in a slow economy, an additional task like this would divert from the communities we serve and would be undesirable.

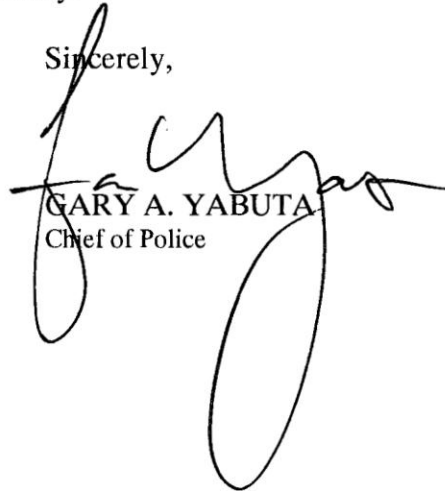
The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
February 11, 2013  
Page 2

The final issue of note is that these facilities at this present time would be against federal law without a permit. The DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) must issue a permit for a facility to operate in the United States. The current regulations to issue a permit requires several factors to be met before a permit can be issued. As these regulations are very strict there appears to be no current issued DEA permits for these types of facilities in the United States that we are aware of.

The Maui Police Department asks for your opposition for H.B. No. 154, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



GARY A. YABUTA  
Chief of Police



Committee: Committee on Agriculture  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 14, 2013, 9:00 a.m.  
Place: Conference Room 312  
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 154, Relating to Industrial Hemp

Dear Chair Wooley and Members of the Committee on Agriculture:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU of Hawaii”) writes in support of H.B. 154, authorizes the Chair of the Board of Agriculture to establish an industrial hemp remediation pilot program.

Despite industrial hemp’s genetically distinct characteristics and its inability to produce a drug effect when smoked or ingested, hemp has become another victim of the senseless War on Drugs. The result has been an unnecessary restriction on the growing of a harmless plant and unreasonable criminal penalties against individuals who cultivate it.

***Hemp is a renewable resource used in many industrial and other goods.<sup>1</sup>***

Hemp fibers are used in fabrics and textiles, yarns and raw or processed spun fibers, paper, carpeting, home furnishings, construction and insulation materials, auto parts, and composites. Hemp seed and oilcake are used in a range of foods and beverages, and can be an alternative food protein source. Oil from crushed hemp seed is an ingredient in a range of body-care products and nutritional supplements, and is also used for industrial oils, cosmetics, and pharmaceuticals.

***Hawaii’s farmers should be allowed to grow hemp.***

Hawaii’s farmers should not be denied the ability to grow and profit from hemp. Annual retail sales of hemp-based products in the U.S. are estimated to exceed \$400 million.<sup>2</sup> The value of U.S. imports of hemp was nearly \$10.5 million in fiscal year 2010.<sup>3</sup> The single largest supplier of U.S. imports of raw and processed hemp fibers is China.<sup>4</sup>

***Industrial hemp is cannabis having no more than 0.3% THC concentration.***

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Congressional Research Service. Hemp as an Agricultural Commodity (RL32725; Jan. 19, 2012), by Renée Johnson. Available at <http://nationalaglawcenter.org/assets/crs/RL32725.pdf>; accessed Sep. 28, 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Washington Initiative Measure No. 502, Sec. 2(s) n.1., 2012.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

Current laws regulating hemp cultivation in the European Union and Canada use three tenths of one percent (0.3%) tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration as the dividing line between industrial hemp and cannabis with intoxicating levels of THC (2% to over 20%), commonly called “marijuana.” The Industrial Hemp Farming Act of 2011<sup>5</sup> also uses this definition for industrial hemp.

H.B. 154 will remove the current threat of federal and state criminal and civil penalties for hemp production for the limited purposes of a state pilot program and take a step towards instituting reasonable, fair and practical laws relating to hemp.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Laurie A. Temple  
Staff Attorney and Legislative Program Director  
ACLU of Hawaii

*The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU”) has been the state’s guardian of liberty for 47 years, working daily in the courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties equally guaranteed to all by the Constitutions and laws of the United States and Hawaii. The ACLU works to ensure that the government does not violate our constitutional rights, including, but not limited to, freedom of speech, association and assembly, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, fair and equal treatment, and privacy. The ACLU network of volunteers and staff works throughout the islands to defend these rights, often advocating on behalf of minority groups that are the target of government discrimination. If the rights of society’s most vulnerable members are denied, everyone’s rights are imperiled.*

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<sup>5</sup> H.R. 1831, introduced in Congress by U.S. Representative Ron Paul on May 11, 2011, with 35 co-sponsors as of September 28, 2012. Companion bill S. 3501 was introduced by U.S. Senator Ron Wyden on August 2, 2012, with 3 co-sponsors.



**PACIFIC  
BIODIESEL**

**Pacific Biodiesel Technologies**

40 Hobron Avenue  
Kahului, Hawaii 96732  
(808) 877-3144  
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February 11, 2013

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE on CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
HEARING: Wed., Feb. 13, 2013  
**Re: In support of House Bill 154, HD2 relating to Industrial Hemp**

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kawakami and members of the Committee,

Pacific Biodiesel Technologies (PBT) wholeheartedly supports House Bill 154, HD2, which would establish a two-year industrial hemp remediation and biofuel crop pilot program.

As Hawaii's only commercial biofuel production company, PBT has for over a decade been exploring a wide range of potential new feedstocks beyond the state's current supply of waste vegetable oil. We are currently engaged in a federally funded biofuel crop demonstration project, working closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as our sponsoring agency, to determine viable biofuel crops for Hawaii and develop production models that we can share with local farmers. The PBT farming team has been using cover crops and such in the successful rehabilitation of previously mono-cropped agricultural lands for our current project. It was our desire, with support from our military sponsors, to include hemp in our crop trials; however, we encountered the roadblock of severe requirements due to its designation as a narcotic, which we believe is now widely known to be erroneous.

Last week on Feb. 7, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack addressed the National Biodiesel Conference, saying that "the reason you're being challenged is because you're winning". He added a resounding "keep fighting -- our country's future depends on it"! With bold action, Hawaii can absolutely be at the forefront of the renewable fuels economy which the Secretary says is critical to the revitalization of rural America.

If the legislature passes HB154, HD2, Pacific Biodiesel would be interested in partnering with the State Dept. of Agriculture to reduce costs for the phytoremediation trials. We are currently conducting trials on the North Shore of Oahu and soon will include Waimea on the island of Hawaii; the PBT team is happy to collaborate using our resources and farming experts. Our Hawaii Military Biofuel Crop project is slated to continue through the end of 2013 so it would be possible to get a crop cycle of industrial hemp cultivated within that time frame if the bill passes this session.

We believe that when hemp is eventually legalized nationally Hawaii will be the ideal place to develop this crop into its incredible potential for soil remediation, food, fuel, building materials, clothing, skin care products, etc. Please pass HB154, HD2, effective on the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

Kelly King, Vice President  
[ktk@biodiesel.com](mailto:ktk@biodiesel.com)

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that phytoremediation is  
2 the environmentally-friendly science of using plants and trees  
3 to remove toxins in the soil, such as metals, pesticides,  
4 solvents, explosives, and crude oil. These toxins can be  
5 reduced by planting specific plants and trees, called hyper-  
6 accumulators, in polluted areas. Specifically, these plants and  
7 trees draw in the toxins, along with beneficial nutrients,  
8 through their roots as nourishment and concentrate them in their  
9 stems, shoots, and leaves, which can then be harvested and  
10 disposed of safely. The nutrient uptake process leaves a clean,  
11 balanced, and nutrient rich soil, which can then be safely used  
12 for agriculture or improving conservation habitats.

13       The legislature also finds that hemp is a superior  
14 phytoremediator because it grows quickly and can extract toxins  
15 without the need to remove any of the contaminated topsoil.  
16 Other factors that make hemp a superior phytoremediator are its  
17 ability to grow unaffected by the toxins it accumulates, its  
18 fast rate of absorption, and its ability to bind compound



1 contaminants from the air and the soil. A factor that makes the  
2 State a particularly compelling candidate for hemp-based  
3 phytoremediation is that the State's extensive agricultural  
4 operations in the past have left toxins in vast tracts of land.  
5 Phytoremediation will remove those toxins.

6 The legislature also finds that industrial hemp is an  
7 environmentally friendly and efficient feedstock for biofuel.  
8 Biodiesel plants already in existence in the State are capable  
9 of meeting eight per cent of the State's biodiesel needs for  
10 ground transportation. These biodiesel plants could increase  
11 their efficiency by utilizing industrial hemp as a feedstock,  
12 thus reducing the State's reliance on imported fuel.

13 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the chairperson of  
14 the board of agriculture to establish a two-year industrial hemp  
15 remediation and biofuel crop pilot program.

16 SECTION 2. (a) The chairperson of the board of  
17 agriculture is authorized to establish the two-year industrial  
18 hemp remediation and biofuel crop pilot program; provided that  
19 the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement  
20 Administration, issues the chairperson a federally-controlled  
21 substance registration for the remediation and biofuel crop  
22 pilot program. Through the pilot program, the chairperson may



1 determine how soils and water may be made more pristine and  
2 healthy by phytoremediation, removal of contaminants, and  
3 rejuvenation through the growth of industrial hemp, as well as  
4 the viability of industrial hemp as a biofuel feedstock. The  
5 chairperson shall work in collaboration with the United States  
6 Army Corps of Engineers, its affiliates, and the Department of  
7 Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering at the University of  
8 Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine to determine the  
9 viability of industrial hemp as a biofuel feedstock.

10 (b) The chairperson may submit a final report, including  
11 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than  
12 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of  
13 2015 on the following:

- 14 (1) The rate of contamination uptake from soil and water;
- 15 (2) The mode of efficient uptake from soil and water;
- 16 (3) The rate of carbon fixation in the Calvin cycle;
- 17 (4) The locations in the roots, stems, leaves, and flowers  
18 of the plants at which contaminants are fixated;
- 19 (5) What contaminants are stabilized in the plants;
- 20 (6) What contaminants on the site need additional  
21 treatment in order to make the soil or water healthy  
22 and pristine;



(7) What disposal method is best for the different  
contaminants, including petrification, encasement,  
incineration, burial, and composting;

(8) A baseline for plants cultivated in a clean soil;

(9) The viability of industrial hemp as a biofuel  
feedstock; and

(10) Any other data deemed important by the chairperson.

(c) The chairperson may adopt rules to implement and set  
standards of participation for this pilot program.

SECTION 3. No person shall be subject to any civil or  
criminal sanctions in this State for growing or possessing  
industrial hemp; provided that the person's growing or  
possessing of industrial hemp is part of the individual's  
participation in the two-year industrial hemp remediation and  
biofuel crop pilot program and the person's participation is in  
full compliance with the requirements of the program.

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                      or so  
much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and  
the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
year 2014-2015 for the two-year industrial hemp remediation and  
biofuel crop pilot program.



1       The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
2 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

3       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050, and  
4 shall be repealed on July 1, 2015.



**Report Title:**

Two-Year Industrial Hemp Remediation and Biofuel Crop Pilot Program

**Description:**

Authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture to establish a two-year industrial hemp remediation and biofuel crop pilot program. Appropriates funds. Effective 07/01/2050.  
(HD2 PROPOSED)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*



## kawakami2 - Rise

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2013 3:29 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** tabraham08@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB154 on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM\*

### **HB154**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for CPC on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	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.

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## kawakami2 - Rise

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2013 5:54 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** kawakami1-Polly  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB154 on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM\*

### **HB154**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for CPC on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Polly Phillips	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.

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## kawakami2 - Rise

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 10:45 AM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** hokuokekai50@msn.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB154 on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM\*

### **HB154**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for CPC on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	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.

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## kawakami2 - Rise

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 1:00 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** marilynmick@pobox.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB154 on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM

### **HB154**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for CPC on Feb 13, 2013 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Mick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please vote for HB 154 and allow the Chair of the Board of Agriculture to establish a two-year industrial hemp remediation pilot program. With its multiple growing seasons, Hawaii is in a unique position to do research on hemp for phytoremediation. Learning more about which varieties of hemp work the best to clean up contaminated soil is in the vital interests of the state and the country as a whole. Varieties developed here in Hawaii could be of benefit to clean up sites across the U.S. and the world. Please vote for HB 154. I would like to add that I do not support waiting until 2050. This bill should be passed and take effect by 2015. Thank you.

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.

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**Michael Bowman**

28455 County Road HH  
Wray, CO 80758  
(303) 570-9277  
mbowman@fuelresponsibly.org

February 9, 2013

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE on CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
HEARING: Monday, Feb. 11, 2013  
**Re: In support of House Bill 154, HD2 relating to Industrial Hemp**

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kawakami and members of the Committee,

Michael Bowman earnestly supports House Bill 154, HD2, which would establish a two-year industrial hemp remediation and biofuel crop pilot program.

As an advocate of the re-introduction of industrial hemp as an alternative crop to meet the nation's energy, food, fiber and construction material needs, Hawaii stands uniquely situated to demonstrate and promote this movement. Recent successful ballot initiatives in Colorado and Washington have now legalized its cultivation under state law; last week Senate Minority leader Mitch McConnell came out in favor of legalization under federal law.

From a purely Hawaii perspective the value of industrial hemp feedstock is immense. The seeds provide a valuable oil for both biodiesel feedstock and food; it's stalks can provide the basic necessity for hempcrete - an economical and environmental alternative to concrete. Given the number of fallow acres on the islands it is not a stretch to imagine industrial hemp playing a major role in achieving both energy and food security.

As an associate and close friend of the principals of Pacific Biodiesel I would fully support passage of HB154 and HD2 and the creation of a partnership with the State Dept. of Agriculture through both bioremediation trials currently proposed - and as an enhancement to the Hawaii Biofuel Crop project.

Please pass HB154 and HD2, effective on the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

Michael Bowman