

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

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014 9:40 A.M. Capitol Auditorium

HOUSE BILL NO. 1755 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Wooley and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1755. This bill would add an additional member to the Board of Agriculture and requires that a member of the Board has organic farming expertise. While the Department does not oppose adding another member to the Board of Agriculture, we would like to point out that requirements for board members are only that they be from the agricultural community or the agricultural support sector.

The Department supports all agriculture. Board of Agriculture meetings are public meetings governed by the Sunshine Law that allow for all viewpoints to be heard on any given agenda item. Furthermore, board members are volunteers that must take time away from their own businesses to attend monthly board meetings. Creating requirements for board members to be from specific sectors of the agricultural industry could severely limit the number of interested and qualified participants, making it difficult to fill seats on the board and subsequently lead to difficulties achieving a quorum and to conduct board business.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony on this measure.



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HB1755

Submitted on: 1/31/2014 Testimony for AGR on Feb 3, 2014 09:40AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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