

LATE

To: Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Chair: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

Vice-chair: Senator Brickwood Galuteria

Testimony in favor of HCR3 SD1

Wednesday, April 3, 10:15 a.m.

After working for over six years in Colorado to promote the cultivation of industrial hemp and seeing huge success, I am qualified and encouraged to promote pro-hemp legislation in Hawaii.

If we are serious about improving the environment, decreasing oil imports, creating jobs, and offering a path for farmers and manufacturers to transition to sustainable practices, we must look at hemp as a part of the solution. There is nothing I'm aware of that is more promising at accomplishing all of that than industrial hemp.

This crop has been cultivated and used for basic needs - food, feed, fiber, fuel and shelter worldwide through thousands of years of history. The inaccurate and vile demonization of this highly useful and harmless crop in the past century is a blip of time while we were being manipulated by U.S. corporate and bureaucratic interests. The economic, agricultural, and environmental circumstances of our times call for us to stop the insanity and get back to taking advantage of all that hemp has to offer. Let Hawaii join Colorado in leading the way!

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