

GM718

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, SIMON RUSSELL, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

April 21, 2015
2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 414

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 718
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
AGRICULTURE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SIMON RUSSELL, FOR A TERM TO
EXPIRE 6-30-2016**

Chairperson Ruderman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message 718 that submits for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, Simon Russell, for a term to expire on June 30, 2016. The Department supports the confirmation of Simon Russell.

Mr. Russell is a farmer who is actively engaged in the community and in promoting the agricultural industry in Hawaii. His interest in soil remediation techniques fall in line with his desire for a sustainable agricultural model for the State of Hawaii. Mr. Russell is actively involved in the Hawaii Farmers Union and as their Legislative Chairman he has been involved in influencing policy decisions that shape the landscape of agriculture in Hawaii.

Mr. Russell will bring a unique perspective on agriculture that will enrich Board discussions and we look forward to his participation on the Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this nomination.





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 16, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture
FROM: Representative Richard Creagan, 5th District
RE: Board of Agriculture Nominee Simon Russell

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members,

Simon Russell has been nominated for the Board of Agriculture.

He is a proponent of sustainable agriculture and a member and officer of the Farmers Union United which promotes the interests of the small and homestead farmers throughout Hawaii.

The Farmers Union is a rapidly growing organization in Hawaii. We have 4 chapters on the Big Island including the Ka'u Chapter. I am currently Vice-President of that chapter.

I have worked closely with Simon on organizational issues and projects and have found him to be a tireless and dedicated leader who has worked closely with the legislature.

I strongly support his appointment to the Board of Agriculture.

Thanks and all the best,
Richard Creagan, M.D.
State House Representative, District 5 Kona-West Ka'u

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Don S. Guzman

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Michael P. Victorino

Councilmembers
Gladys C. Baisa
Robert Carroll
Elle Cochran
Don Couch
Stacy Crivello
Riki Hokama



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

April 20, 2015

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ruderman and Committee Members,

**SUBJECT: SUPPORTING SIMON RUSSELL, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (GM718)**

It is my pleasure to submit testimony in support of Simon Russell on his nomination to the State Board of Agriculture.

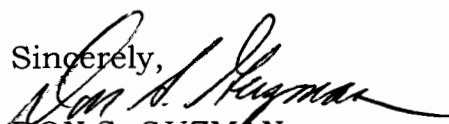
During the past two years in office, I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Russell on matters relating to Agriculture in Maui County. He has served as a knowledgeable resource for me in my capacity as Chair of the Council's Economic Development, Energy, Parks & Agriculture Committee.

I find Mr. Russell's work ethic and communication skills to be exceptional and he has put those attributes to work for Maui County serving as a tireless advocate for all things Agriculture. In addition, Simon is dependable, insightful and possesses a global knowledge about Agriculture on all levels – County, State, Federal and International.

Simon is slated to fill the vacant Maui County seat on the Board and will truly be an asset to the Board, for Maui County, and ultimately the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully urge your support for the confirmation of Simon Russell to the State Board of Agriculture.

Sincerely,


DON S. GUZMAN
COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 10:42:37 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	No

Comments:

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04/17/15

Aloha Chair Ruderman and Honorable Committee Members:

On behalf of The Kohala Chapter of the Hawaii Farmers Union United, we hereby support Simon Russell's confirmation to the Maui County seat on the State Board of Agriculture.

We believe that Mr. Russell will bring to the board of agriculture a practical and honest mindset for solving agricultural issues. Mr. Russell has proven himself a tireless advocate for whole systems of agricultural infrastructure. His focus on building a production-based economy is particularly a great asset to this board. His work with HFUU clearly demonstrates his ability to collaborate on critical issues and his experience and knowledge, as a family farmer will offer a refreshing perspective to the agricultural community.

Please confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo,

Kohala Chapter of the Hawaii Farmers Union United

James Land, Secretary
Hawi, Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 6:33:51 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: sustainablesakala@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:18:17 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Sakala	Hawaii Farmers Union United, Kona Chapter	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Legislative Members, I wanted to take a moment to convey my strong support for Simon Russell in his appointment to the Board of Ag. I am familiar with Simon's commitment to agriculture here in Hawaii and know he will bring a much needed voice to this state board. Mahalo for your time, Steve Sakala Democrat District 5 Chair

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P.O. Box 99, Wailuku, HI 96793-0099

April 16, 2015

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members,

Vincent Mina
President
Haleakala, Maui

Hawaii Farmers Union United representing its eight chapters across the state comprising of 600 members is in support of Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture.

Simon Russell
Vice-President
Haleakala, Maui

We assert that Simon will bring to the board of agriculture a practical systems way of thinking in addressing challenges we as agriculturist face in making a living at farming while setting out to growing our food, fiber and fuel here locally.

Kai Hinson
Secretary
Kona

Simons tireless focus on the big picture of creating and advocating for whole systems of agricultural infrastructure in building a production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy will be a great asset to this board. His forward thinking can do attitude in working together collaboratively as a team within HFUU, has propelled his representing our mission on this level. Simons experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing biological systems will bring a refreshing perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as a agricultural community.

Ray Maki
Treasurer
Kauai

Alika Atay
Mauna Kahalawai,
Maui

It will be through his supporting the best and highest interest of the agricultural and general community at large that Simon we feel will be the best candidate for this most important position.

Pamela Boyer
Oahu

We humbly ask that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the board of agriculture.

Greg Smith
Ka'u

Phyllis Robinson
Haleakala, Maui

Mahalo,
HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED

Dashiell Kuhr
Kohala

Vincent Mina, President

Jacque Prell
East Hawai'i

The Hawai'i Farmers Union United and its Chapters is a nonprofit corporation formed under Hawai'i law. It advocates for the sovereign right of farmers to create and sustain vibrant and prosperous agricultural communities for the benefit of all Hawai'i through cooperation, education and legislation.

Steve Sakala
Kona

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: ambrosenterprises@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 10:43:46 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

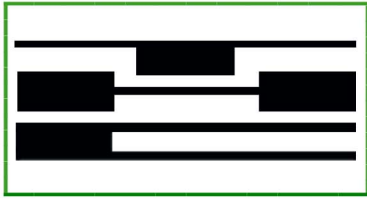
Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	MFUU	Support	No

Comments: I support the nomination of Simon Russell to the HBOA.

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TEA HAWAII & COMPANY

April 19, 2015

GM718

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members

Tea Hawaii and Company representing 50% of Hawaii grown tea production in Hawaii is in support of Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture.

We assert that Simon will bring to the board of agriculture a practical systems way of thinking in addressing challenges we as agriculturists face in making a living at farming while setting out to grow our food, fiber and fuel here locally.

Simon's tireless focus on the big picture of creating and advocating for whole systems of agricultural infrastructure in building a production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy will be a great asset to this board. His forward thinking can do attitude in working together collaboratively with state tea industry and numerous other specialty crops will advance Hawaii agriculture that is sustainable and significant contributors to local economy. Simon's experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems will bring a refreshing perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as a agricultural community.

It will be through his supporting the best and highest interest of the agricultural and general community at large that Simon we feel will be an excellent candidate for this most important position.

We humbly ask that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

Eva Lee – Company Director

PO Box 362 Volcano, Hawaii 96785
Tel/Fax (808) -967-7637 email teahawaii@gmail.com
www.teahawaii.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: lavaboy458@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 2:07:35 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerry Ross	Kupa'a Farms	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am testifying in full support of the appointment of Simon Russell to the State Board of Agriculture. I am a farmer in Kula, Maui and I feel that Simon will bring our best interests and those of the community forward. I support growing food for people in the State and doing so with a small footprint and by making use of in-State resources.....I know that many people and the government support this approach and I am sure that Simon will do his best to help us achieve that goal. He is a very dedicated and hard working individual.

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Cc: jd@kulahaven.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 10:55:14 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Dobovan	Kulahaven Farms LLC	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell is eminently qualified to sit on the State Board of Agriculture and will be a real asset to both our State and our industry. Please vote to confirm him. Sincerely, John Dobovan President, Kulahaven Farms LLC

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: jrpotocko@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 10:15:38 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Potocko	Ilio Lani Farm, LLC	Support	No

Comments: Simon will be a great asset to the Hawaii Board of Ag. He has personal experience, the right values, understands the dynamics between profitability and sustainability. Myself, my wife Ruth, and our farm (Ilio Lani) support his nomination without reservation. Mahalo.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: malian@kauspecialtycoffee.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 1:06:11 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Malian Lahey	Ka`u Specialty LLC	Support	No

Comments: As a large scale organic vegetable farmer, coffee farmer, and coffee broker in the Ka`u district, I testify that Simon Russell is an outstanding advocate for the farmers in my region as well as in the state of Hawaii. Simon is a true public servant, has demonstrated on numerous occasions his greatness of vision partnered with a warmhearted passion to serve the interests of agriculture and support our entire state with the benefits of nutritious, local food. Not only that, he has taken the time to listen to the concerns and interests of conventional farmers as well as organic farmers, farmers of different age groups and cultural groups. He has dedicated the time and the attention to learn about all types of farmers because of his commitment to truly serve agriculture beyond the limitations of any identity group. As my 84.6 acre farm is developed and becomes more productive, the support I will require from the Department of Agriculture will grow as well. There is no one I would rather work with than Simon Russell. I request the committee to strongly support his nomination.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: mark@marksheehan.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:20:19 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Sheehan	Haiku Aina permaculture Initiative	Comments Only	No

Comments: Simon will be a great addition to this group. He knows agriculture across the state, he's conversant with all forms of AG from conventional to organic; further he has good working relations with all groups. Simon knows the soil-building approach we use at HAPI. Best of all, he's been the lege chair for a Maui group for the past few years and so is very familiar with the legislative process.

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THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

LAND FOR PEOPLE

**THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND'S TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 718
APPOINTMENT OF SIMON RUSSELL TO BOARD OF
AGRICULTURE**

**House Committee on Agriculture
Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 2:45 p.m., Rm. 414**

The Trust for Public Land strongly supports the appointment of Simon Russell to represent Maui County on the State Board of Agriculture. Simon is a working farmer, and is also the Vice-President and Legislative Chair of the Hawaii Farmers Union, which has over 600 members statewide. In that capacity, he has worked diligently toward ensuring sustainable food security for the future of Hawai'i through empowering the state's farmers to earn a living while employing practices that maintain the land and soil's vitality.

Among Simon's tireless efforts is his focus on the big picture of creating and advocating for systems of agricultural infrastructure and a production-based economy that complements but is not dependent on a service-based economy. His forward thinking and "can do" attitude in working collaboratively for farmers at many levels will bring a perspective and strategy of ecological sustainability in moving forward as agricultural community.

Simon supports the best and highest interest of the agricultural and general community at large. And we believe that Simon's work and passion for the success of Hawaii's farmers will be an asset to the Board of Agriculture. We thus wholly support his nomination without reservation.

Mahalo -



Stephen Rafferty
Project Manager

The Trust for Public Land
1003 Bishop St., Pauahi Tower, Suite 740
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: wkenkoike@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 12:53:56 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
W. Ken Koike	Lualualei Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of Simon Russell to be appointed to the Board of Agriculture! As a small farmer in Wai'anae Valley as well as in my capacity as the Health & Agriculture Committee Chairman of the Lualualei Hawaiian Civic Club, we give our full support to Simon knowing he will always protect our best interest for our 'aina, our keiki and our kupuna! I am proud to have worked with him and consider him a dear friend of ours in Wai'anae! His tireless work on his own farm in Maui to support his growing family on top of all the legislative work he does for the Hawaii Farmers Union United on Oahu, meeting with legislators and decision makers, has groomed him very well for his new opportunity to serve on the Board of Agriculture! We need his voice representing the new generation of regenerative farmers who work to build soil health and nutrient-rich foods without human carcinogens or toxic poisonous chemicals that pollute our air, water and earth. He also understands how to bioremediate or clean up and heal these important challenges and most importantly, is constantly seeking and learning new techniques to address our most pressing issues. Simon studies and reads more than most people I know! He values our ancient Hawaiian traditions and technology of Ahupua'a Resource Management as well as pono stewardship practices from all over the world. He not only puts them into practice at his own farm but teaches as many people who will listen! I cannot give him a higher recommendation! He will faithfully execute the responsibilities of a commissioner by fostering real growth in our agricultural sector in the right direction by weeding and seeding the necessary polices that need to be cultivated! Please consider him to serve on our Board of Agriculture to protect and preserve our own interest against those in Corporate Special Interest Groups who desire to take advantage of us! Much Mahalo & Aloha for your time and consideration! 'O wau no me ka ha'aha'a, W. Ken Koike Health & Agriculture Chairman Lualualei Hawaiian Civic Club

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: k_now714@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 11:09:33 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Roth	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: andrea.snow@foodcorps.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 8:32:57 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Snow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members, As an aspiring farmer concerned for the continued viability of small farms and rural communities, I am in support of Simon Russell's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: maumagic5711@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2015 7:06:27 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/18/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support this nomination.

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Cc: pitcaith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 7:18:11 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Pitcaithley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Farmers Union member Simon Russell to represent Maui County on the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Simon will bring to the board of agriculture a practical systems way of thinking in addressing challenges we as agriculturists face in making a living at farming while setting out to grow our food, fiber and fuel here locally. Simon's tireless focus on the big picture of creating and advocating for whole systems of agricultural infrastructure in building a production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy will be a great asset to this board. His forward thinking can do attitude in working together collaboratively as a team within HFUU has propelled his representing our mission on this level. Simon's experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems will bring a refreshing perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as a agricultural community. It will be through his supporting the best and highest interest of the agricultural and general community at large that Simon we feel will be an excellent candidate for this most important position.

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Cc: akrmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 12:31:07 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anna Russell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I highly support Simon Russell for the position at the Board of Agriculture.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: rustysfarm@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 11:27:12 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Astrid	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha! Please do confirm the nomination of Simon Russell for the HBOA. He is perfect for it and will be much appreciated. Thank you.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 2:41:27 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I strongly support HFUU Vice President and Legislative Committee Chairman Simon Russell to serve on the Hawaii board of agriculture. Please support this important nomination for the future of sustainable Hawaiian agriculture and soil conservation. Mahalo, Ms. Barbara Barry

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Cc: bcole47@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 11:05:44 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betsy Cole	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support Simon Russell's nomination to the Board of Agriculture.

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Cc: diamondbranchhi@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 9:02:21 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendan Balthazar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Mr. Russell's confirmation. I he is an asset to the agg industry here on Maui. Brendan

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Cc: breezybees808@Gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 10:05:23 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Briana Hurley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: carl.campagna@kamakagreen.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 8:26:58 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 1:40:20 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Evensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the nomination of Simon Russell to represent Maui County on the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Simon has shown his dedication to agriculture in Hawaii by his tireless advocacy on behalf of Hawaii's farmers at the past several Legislative Sessions and through his leadership in the Hawaii Farmers Union United.

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Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 8:08:35 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chris kobayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and committee members: Please confirm Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. As a taro and mixed vegetable/fruit farmer, I appreciate his passion and capability as a farmer and strong advocate for beginning and other small family farms across the islands in the state. Mahalo for your SUPPORT !

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Cc: chris@mentzel.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 9:37:23 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Mentzel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon will do an amazing job!

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Subject: RE: GM718 Simon Powell for Appointment to the Ag Committee
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 2:54:15 PM

Re: **GM718**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Simon Powell will make a wonderful addition to the Ag committee. I support his nomination and am in favor of his appointment.

Christina Fisher
Haiku, Hawai

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: 333cory@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 11:19:13 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha legislators, Please support Simon Russell for the Hawai'i Board of Agriculture. I understand he has a background as a family farmer working with sustainable biological systems, is a strong advocate for small organic / sustainable farming, and looks at the big picture of systems of agricultural infrastructure. mahalo, Cory Harden, Hilo

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Cc: info@courtneybruch.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 1:45:39 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Bruch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha~ mahalo for this nomination. Simon Russell is a farmer who truly cares about farmers and Hawaii. He is sincere, organized, a great communicator, community advocate and ambitious. I know he will serve Hawaii well in this capacity. Thank you, Courtney Bruch Kula, Maui

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 9:27:59 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale B. Bonar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: daniel.dano.gardner@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 9:50:16 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mr. Russell is a thoughtful and well-versed champion for safe and sound agricultural policy. His nomination to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture would be a very positive step forward for the citizens of Hawaii.

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Cc: panther_dave@yahoo.com
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Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 1:01:33 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Kisor	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Now that the people have a proper nominee for Agriculture, it's a safe bet the opposition will spend a lot of money to get their GMO, water diverting crony in place. Please support Simon Russel!

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Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 11:16:29 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Luborsky	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members, I am in support of the nomination of Simon Russel to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Mr. Russel's untiring work to create systems that support agriculture at a local level will surely enrich Hawaii and the Hawaii board of agriculture if he is nominated. Mr. Russel has been very active in spreading awareness about current issues facing human scale agriculture, and is actively pursuing solutions to making such an agriculture more viable and accessible. His grounded approach will surely be a boon to the political arena, as well as to agriculture on a community level. Not only his ideas for the future of agriculture in Hawaii and awareness of the current political issues, but also his connection to the community at large make him an ideal member of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I humbly encourage you to confirm his nomination. Aloha, - Dave Luborsky

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Cc: dave@digestionperfection.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 10:34:18 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Klein, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please confirm Simon Russell to represent Maui on the Hawaii State Agriculture Board. He is a brilliant, tireless leader and voice for healthful, sustainable Maui agriculture.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 9:20:48 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members It is with pleasure and excitement I strongly support Simon Russell's appointment to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I am a member of Hawaii Farmers Union United. I chair the "hemp working group" of this organization. I have personally had the privilege to work with Simon Russell over the past 18 months. Simon is an effective communicators able to understand all sides of a conversation and move people in a united direction. He is quick to resolve conflict with effective resolutions for all. He is a man of his word with commitment to his community and the Hawaii islands as a whole system. Simon is the type of leader and team member we all wish to work with on any endeavor. I believe Simon's experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems will bring a refreshing perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as an agricultural community. I humbly ask that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture Respectfully, Denise Key

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Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 8:20:48 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dianne winter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members I very much support Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture. Simon is a farmer himself fully dedicated to helping our farmers here in Maui make a living at growing our food locally. He is extremely knowledgeable about sustainable biological systems in building a production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy here in Maui. He deeply cares about the welfare of the farming community as a whole and will work very hard for their highest good. Our whole community in general will be better because of him. I feel Simon will be an excellent for this position. It is my sincere hope that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Thank you. Sincerely, Dianne Winter

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Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 9:33:17 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Lay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 1:27:20 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Aloii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: ellie.snyder@rare-dear.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 3:47:42 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eleanor Snyder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members I am in support of Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture. I assert that Simon will bring to the board of agriculture a practical systems way of thinking in addressing challenges we as agriculturists face in making a living at farming while setting out to grow our food, fiber and fuel here locally. Simon's tireless focus on the big picture of creating and advocating for whole systems of agricultural infrastructure in building a production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy will be a great asset to this board. His forward thinking can do attitude in working together collaboratively as a team within HFUU has propelled his representing our mission on this level. Simon's experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems will bring a refreshing perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as a agricultural community. It will be through his supporting the best and highest interest of the agricultural and general community at large that Simon we feel will be an excellent candidate for this most important position. I humbly ask that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Mahalo, Eleanor Snyder lawai Kauai Hawaii

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GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elen Stoops	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Legislators, Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. I met Simon in 2012 and at that time learned about his strong commitment to improving Hawaii's food security and to the more careful and thoughtful use of the island's natural resources to achieve this. In working with Simon I have observed that he is thorough in his analysis of a problem, careful in his steps to find the correct solutions and demonstrates integrity in all of his dealings with others. Simon will make a strong contribution in this role to serve the state of Hawaii and the welfare of its residents and the land. Mahalo, Elen Stoops

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GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eloise Engman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell will be a huge asset to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. As an active farmer and Vice President of Hawaii Farmers Union United he will be an important voice for small farmers in Hawaii. Mr Russell has a deep understanding of the issues facing agriculture in Hawaii today, and has a great deal of expertise to offer in the way of cutting edge solutions to Hawaii's food security issues.

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GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Kandagawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Vierra	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Simon Russell for his ability to think of the whole system for agriculture and long term affects and I feel good about him as the HFUU supports him as well. George Vierra

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Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 12:52:32 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gylian Solay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 8:24:15 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harriet Witt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon's expertise, efficiency and understanding of the big picture make him uniquely qualified for this position. He has what it takes to help us develop grass-roots agriculture and independence of mainland food,

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Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 5:29:24 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harry Butler	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to endorse Simon Russell to represent Maui County on the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture. He is a person with the highest ethical standards and a commitment to the best interests of the people of Hawaii.

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Cc: heidielana@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 11:02:29 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heidi Erhardt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly SUPPORT Simon Russell as a trustworthy, respected regenerative farmer and Vice President of Hawaii Farmers Union United. He is a most excellent candidate for the State of Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Simon will be a voice of reason for positive solutions. Thank you for your consideration.

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Cc: molivit@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 1:45:04 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isabelle Olivit	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Tuesday, April 21, 2015; 2:45 pm
By
J. Kenneth Grace**

**GM 718 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of
Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, SIMON RUSSELL, for a term to
expire 6-30-2016.**

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, I wish to **support** the nomination of Simon Russell to the Board of Agriculture.

My name is J. Kenneth Grace. I am a resident of Kaneohe, and employed as Associate Dean for Research in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am providing personal testimony in support of GM 718 and Mr. Russell's nomination.

Mr. Russell owns and operates a commercial family farm on Maui, serves as Legislative Chair for the Hawaii Farmers' Union United, and is a strong advocate for agriculture in the State of Hawaii. In my experience, Mr. Russell is knowledgeable and thoughtful in his views, and I believe he will be a fair and engaged member of the Board of Agriculture. I ask that you support his confirmation.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony in support of Mr. Russell's confirmation.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: touch2know@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 11:55:42 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Yunker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon is exactly the kind of man we need on the Ag Board!

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Aloha,

Honorable Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Committee Members

I would like to express my support of Governor Ige's appointment of Simon Russell to represent Maui County on the state board of Agriculture.

As a member of the Hawaii Farmers Union United made up of around 600 members statewide, I have had the personal pleasure to know Simon Russell and follow his amazing work on behalf of the farmers of Hawaii.

Simon Russell's talents will help the board of agriculture in many practical ways. His thoughts on how best to address the many challenges Hawaii's agriculturists face while striving to make a living as a farmer and growing our food, fiber, fuel and local economy will be of tremendous value to Hawaii.

Beyond his work for others, he has maintained a busy family and home farm.

Simon's looks to the whole picture when he considers ways of creating and advocating for complete agricultural infrastructures that would include building a production based economy and keeping it in relationship to the existing service based economy.

He is a forward thinker, with a can do attitude in working together and collaboratively as a team.

Simon has real life experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems and can bring them to the Board of Agriculture. Simon Russell also has a refreshing perspective on strategies for ecological sustainability that can help move Hawaii forward as a leader in creating agricultural communities.

Again, I reaffirm my support and humbly ask that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Mahalo,

Jim Hall

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: janetsimpson943@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 11:08:50 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Simpson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members I support Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture. I believe Simon will bring to the board of agriculture a practical way of thinking in addressing challenges we as agriculturists face in making a living at farming while setting out to grow our food. Please confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Thank you, Janet Simpson

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: janinecalvert1999@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 9:49:15 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janine Callvert Biagi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Simon Russsll as a member of the Agriculture Committee. I know him to be fair and trust he will represent the small, organic, farm communities of our State against the corruption of the biotech corporations that are poisoning the population and attempting to take over the lands of Hawaii for their nefarious purposes.

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Cc: jgelert@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 9:06:07 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Gelert	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture! Simon's tireless focus on the big picture of creating and advocating for whole systems of agricultural infrastructure in building a production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy will be a great asset to this board. His forward thinking can do attitude in working together collaboratively as a team within HFUU has propelled his representing our mission on this level. Simon's experience and knowledge as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems will bring a refreshing perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as a agricultural community.

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Cc: priorityearth@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 8:57:11 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Yudis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 10:20:34 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support Maui's Simon Russell (a respected regenerative farmer and Vice President of Hawaii Farmers Union United) for the State of Hawaii Board of Agriculture. www.WeAreOne.cc

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Cc: jdbmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 4:09:47 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Brann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support nomination of Simon Russell for the state board of agriculture. As a knowledgeable regenerative farmer of Maui, he is competent to represent the needs and concerns of Hawaii's farmers and to grow future generations of farmers.

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Cc: karniemyers@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 7:38:40 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Myers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: ohialani@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 10:28:37 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Romanchuk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell has proven himself many times over to be reputable, fair and knowledgeable about Farming and its implications, requirements and legalities. He is a likeable person and communicates articulately about key issues and I have full faith in his ability to serve on the Board of Agriculture. I can't think of a more qualified, forward thinking person for this position.

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Cc: keith@keithranney.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:24:37 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell will do an excellent job in representing Maui County on the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture. I've known Simon for over 7 years and know him to be a man of integrity who cares deeply for his ohana and the aina that sustains us.

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Cc: 2kalkout@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2015 5:32:56 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/18/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth A Likout	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: kirkurry@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 12:35:11 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kirk Surry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Simon Russell to represent Maui County on the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture. This is a pono candidate who truly values the land and its people. Excellent choice!

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 7:20:50 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kristin carter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: zigeuner68@q.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 7:10:27 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Russell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am Simon's mother. He spent a lot of time learning about farming for the years we had our plant nursery on Kauai. His father had a farm in Vermont where he learned even more. He has always wanted the land to be cared for properly. Long on sustainability short on toxic chemicals. He cares for this earth and also is a good leader in trying to get others to do the right things with the land.

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Cc: lorip@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 1:24:52 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Akuna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: moloairrigationcoop@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 10:53:39 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Moloa'a Irrigation Cooperative on the Island of Kaua'i gives STRONG SUPPORT to the nomination of Simon Russell to the Board of Agriculture.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: lydibernal@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 2:16:26 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lydi Morgan Bernal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the nomination of Simon Russell for the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I have know Simon to be a hard-working advocate for Hawaii's farmers and food systems and a positive, pleasant, and professional person to work with.

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**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, April 21, 2015; 2:45 pm
By
Maria Gallo**

**GM 718 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Agriculture,
Gubernatorial Nominee, SIMON RUSSELL, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.**

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, I wish to strongly support the nomination of Simon Russell to the Board of Agriculture.

My name is Maria Gallo. I am a resident of Oahu, and employed as Dean in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am providing personal testimony.

I have had the pleasure to serve on the Board of Agriculture and therefore work closely with Scott Enright and the members on the Board. Each member's expertise and insights are important as we address critical agricultural issues for Hawaii. I have interacted with Mr. Russell through his leadership with the Hawaii Farmers' Union United and have always found him to be a strong and fair advocate for agriculture. He will broaden the perspective of the Board and be a valuable addition.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony in strong support of Mr. Russell's confirmation.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: greenleaf.maui@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 3:51:22 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marta greenleaf	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please confirm Simon Russell for the Board of Agriculture. He will be an asset to the State as he is active in the Legislature and also is a regenerative farmer.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: dechenmaui@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2015 10:06:36 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/18/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Groode	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please confirm Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. He will represent Maui well.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: melaniekosaka@me.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM719 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2015 8:30:39 AM

GM719

Submitted on: 4/18/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melanie Kosaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: themomhui@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 9:24:49 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mercy Ritte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 7:54:49 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meredith Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My husband and I highly recommend Simon Russell to hold this position. On a number of occasions he has helped us immensely and has worked quickly, decisively, and with great integrity! Respectively submitted, Meredith Johnson

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Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 3:42:37 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In strong support of Simon Russell. In strong support of Simon Russell. Mr. Russell is an outstanding public servant with true vision and the passion needed to advocate for all types of farmers in the state of Hawaii, not just one group or another. Simon will best serve the interests of agriculture and support our entire state by taking the time to listen to the concerns and interests of conventional farmers as well as organic farmers, farmers of all generations and cultural backgrounds. He will best serve our state agricultural resources and needs.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: MSMatson@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 12:25:46 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support.

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Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 7:29:10 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: sistahcash@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 10:04:01 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie Cash	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell is the man for this position. He's got my vote.

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Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 6:34:33 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: maunutritionaltherapy@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 9:00:58 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell is, by far, the best candidate for this position. I fully support his appointment.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 10:06:43 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Boyar	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Cc: jahniappleseed@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2015 8:24:35 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/18/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 8:58:16 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
penny levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In strong support. The Hawaii Farmers Union United is the fastest growing membership of young, diversified farmers in the state. As a member of the board, Simon Russell has been a voice for positive, pro-active policy and collaboration in agriculture. He is also an active farmer and brings to the table solid experience in organic farming and soil health care; both strong trends among the new generation of growers in Hawaii. Please confirm their rightful place at the table with the appointment of Simon Russell to the Board of Agriculture. Mahalo.

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Cc: raphiell@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 11:17:59 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raphiell Nolin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a family farmer in Pukalani, Maui and I am writing in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I have worked with Mr. Russell in the Hawaii Farmers Union United and find him to be extremely intelligent and well informed in the field of sustainable agriculture. I feel he would be a great asset to the Hawaii State Agriculture Board.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: bexter@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 11:43:07 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Sydney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It would be great to have Simon Russell represent agriculture on Maui!!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: malamaopuna@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 9:16:55 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Siracusa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a farmer on the Big Island I urge you to support the nomination of Simon Russell to the Maui Board of Agriculture. Mr. Russell is a family farmer concerned with long term agricultural sustainability - a perspective that is sorely needed on the Board so that all stakeholders are represented.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: saljobst@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:08:36 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sallyjane Bodnar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon has been a very active and informative person researching and informing people with an interest in agriculture for Maui.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: sarah.m.leone@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 10:36:51 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Leone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: scott@aloha.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 6:38:21 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Crawford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: slwsurfing@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 1:53:03 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon willeford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: bluehi@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 9:18:17 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
steven bronstein	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Steven Bronstein/Blue Hawaii, International ,LLC. www.bluehawaii-int.com Simon Russell, aside from being a man of integrity an expert on AG, is a communicator, a team player, and in essence a gift for all Hawaiians who love the aina. Simon Russell will add value to all our lives by his presence on the board of AG.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: susan@chefteton.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 2:52:25 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
susan campbell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Appointing Simon Russell to the Board of Agriculture is one of the best things the state could do. I am 100% in favor. Thank you.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: sd3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 12:25:01 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Douglas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: tampaltin@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 11:08:42 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: i support Mr Russell because of his ability to see the big picture and his logical thought processes. He has a positive can do attitude which will greatly benefit the board and our state as a whole. Mahalo Tamara Paltin

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: taragrace808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 12:03:01 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tara Grace	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support the nomination of Simon Russell into the dept of Ag.

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Your Honors,

Simon Russel will help to rapidly move the Hawaii Board of Agriculture and the State Department of Ag towards sustainable, ecological, culturally acceptable, and socially equitable agriculture in Hawaii; and he will be a significant help in guiding us towards food security and food, fiber and energy self-sufficiency.

Thank you,

Thayne Taylor

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: tacraig@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 9:22:30 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Craig	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russel is the best nominee to represent Maui County on the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. He is AKAMAI and we need him on the Ag Board.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: tracy.emills@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:32:09 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracy E Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm presently off the island with a family emergency, otherwise I'd have been there to testify in person. I have watched Simon Russel do his work, talk to groups and I've seen him with his family. I absolutely think he's the right person for this position. He cares about the aina, he knows how to farm and he understands the needs of the farmers.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: trangtravels2010@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 4:26:38 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
trang nguyen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: A truly honest man, working for the people. exactly what we need!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: tulsi@mauiishome.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 2:33:18 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: please support Simon Russell

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Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Tuesday, April 21, 2015 — 2:45 p.m. — Room 414

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports Simon Russell for the Board of Agriculture

Dear Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

We are Murray Clay, Kyle Datta, and Amy Hennessey, the management team of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment company that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food; increase clean, renewable energy; and waste reduction. We believe that self-sufficiency in these key areas 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 strongly supports Simon Russell for the Board of Agriculture. His appointment aligns with our goal of producing more locally grown food.

We have worked with Simon and have found him to be intelligent, easy to work with, and someone who cares deeply about agricultural issues. Through his work with the Hawai'i Farmers Union United, he understands the needs and concerns of farmers, particularly smaller farmers and those who produce organic foods. He has lent his support to us on key agricultural issues to help local food production including access to financing for farmers, value-added foods, procurement, and food safety. We have confidence in his leadership and ability to make a difference on the Board of Agriculture.

We admire his years of working on agricultural issues and look forward to working with him in the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Kyle Datta
General Partner

Amy Hennessey
Director of Communications

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: valerielasciak@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 2:19:55 PM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
valerie Lasciak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: sharedpleasures@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Friday, April 17, 2015 7:06:23 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
vicki levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Simon Russell knows agriculture and what it takes today to farm in Hawai'i....and will be a tremendous asset to the Board's work.

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Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members

My name is Vince Kana`i Dodge and I am the part owner of `Ai Pohaku-The Stone Eaters, a Wai`anae Community livelihood creating enterprise, utilizing kiawe bean pods. Our dedicated crew is in support of Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state board of Agriculture. GM 718.

We in Hawaii nei feed ourselves in a way that is totally unsustainable, relying heavily on imports. This will and must change. Simon, as a family farmer utilizing sustainable biological systems will bring to the board of agriculture a practical systems way of thinking in addressing challenges we as agriculturists face in making a living at farming while setting out to grow our food, fiber and fuel here locally.

Simon can c the big picture of an agricultural production based economy that is in relationship to the existing service based economy. He is a solid team worker and will enable others to bring about the changes that will create whole systems of agricultural infrastructure. We need systemic change! We need collaborators on the Ag Board. We need forward thinking from a work with what is already here perspective. We say “ `Ai ka mea loa`a.” Eat what u have.

Simon has done an outstanding job as vice president of Hawaii Farmers Union United. His experience and knowledge will bring a necessary perspective to the conversation and strategy of ecological sustainability in our moving forward as a agricultural community- which we must regain.

Plz confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Aloha nui!

Vince Kana`i Dodge, 4 the `Ai Pohaku crew

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: willowrussell@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 12:14:33 AM

GM718

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Willow Russell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to support Simon Russell's nomination for the Hawai'i State Board of Agriculture. Simon is deeply committed to healthy farms on Maui and across the State. He has given countless hours to further Hawaiian agriculture in multiple ways, most recently with Hawai'i Farmers Union United. He also manages multiple farms and, as his sister, I have had the pleasure of visiting these farms. I have witnessed first hand Simon's connection to the land and personal investment in innovative approaches to ensure we can all enjoy thriving farms, clean water, and vital lands for generations to come.

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